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The Long Island FISHERMAN

The largest Weekly Fishing Magazine in the United States!

April 27th Volume 13, Number 17 ★ 13th Year of Publishing ★ FIFTY-CENTS

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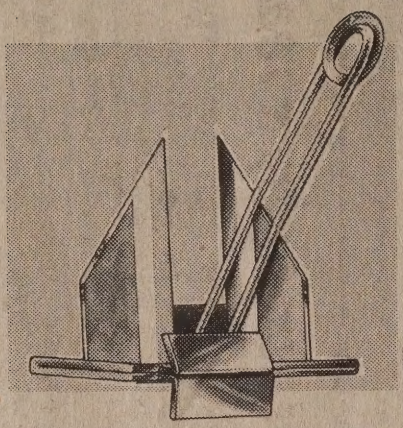

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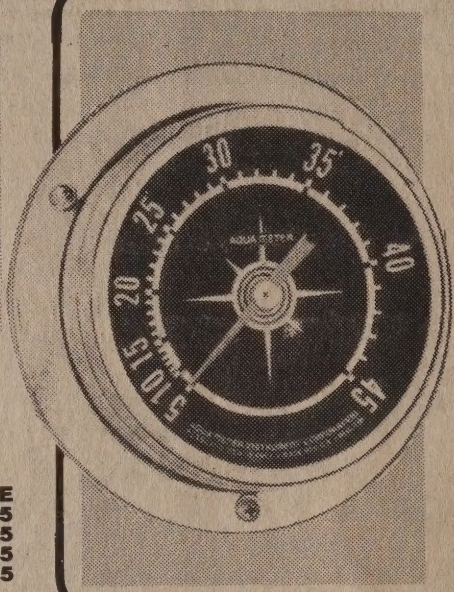

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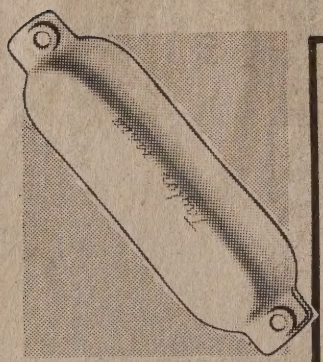

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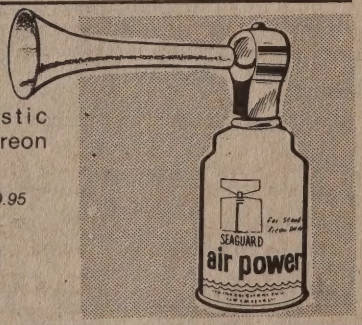

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The Long Island FISHERMAN

The Difference Between Just Fishing and Catching Fish!

VOL. 13, NO. 17 APRIL 27, 1978

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COMING NEXT WEEK:
Peconic Weakfish

About the Cover—

The new Kevlar Hull *HydraSports* 2100CC shows off its stuff. This new concept in boat construction will be field-tested this summer by the staff of *The Long Island Fisherman, so keep an eye out for us.*

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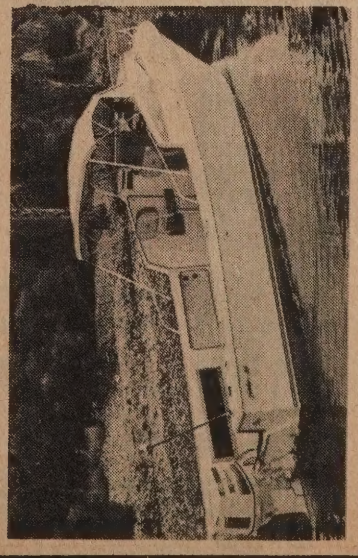

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Speed Sticker worm hooks are available in two grades: super and standard, each in sizes 1/0 through 5/0. For more information, write: Lew Childre & Sons, Inc., P.O. Box 535, Foley, Al. 36535.

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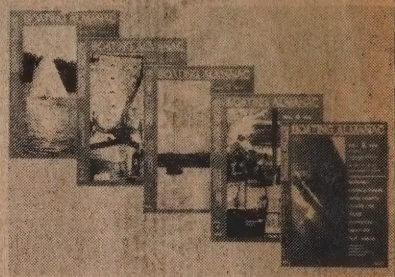
NEW BOOKS



1978 BOATING ALMANACS

The annually updated 1978 Boating Almanacs, covering the area from Maine through North Carolina in 4 volumes and now including the NEW Florida, Volume 6, are now available.

Vol. 1—Maine, Mass., and New Hampshire.

Vol. 2—Long Island, Conn., and Rhode Island.

Vol. 3—New Jersey, Hudson River, Lake Champlain, Erie Canal, and Delaware Bay.

Vol. 4—The Chesapeake Bay and tributaries, Atlantic Ocean of Delaware, Md., Va. and tidal waters of N.C.

Vol. 5—To be published in 1979.

Vol. 6—Fernandina Beach to Key West, Key West to Anclote including the Okeechobee Waterway.

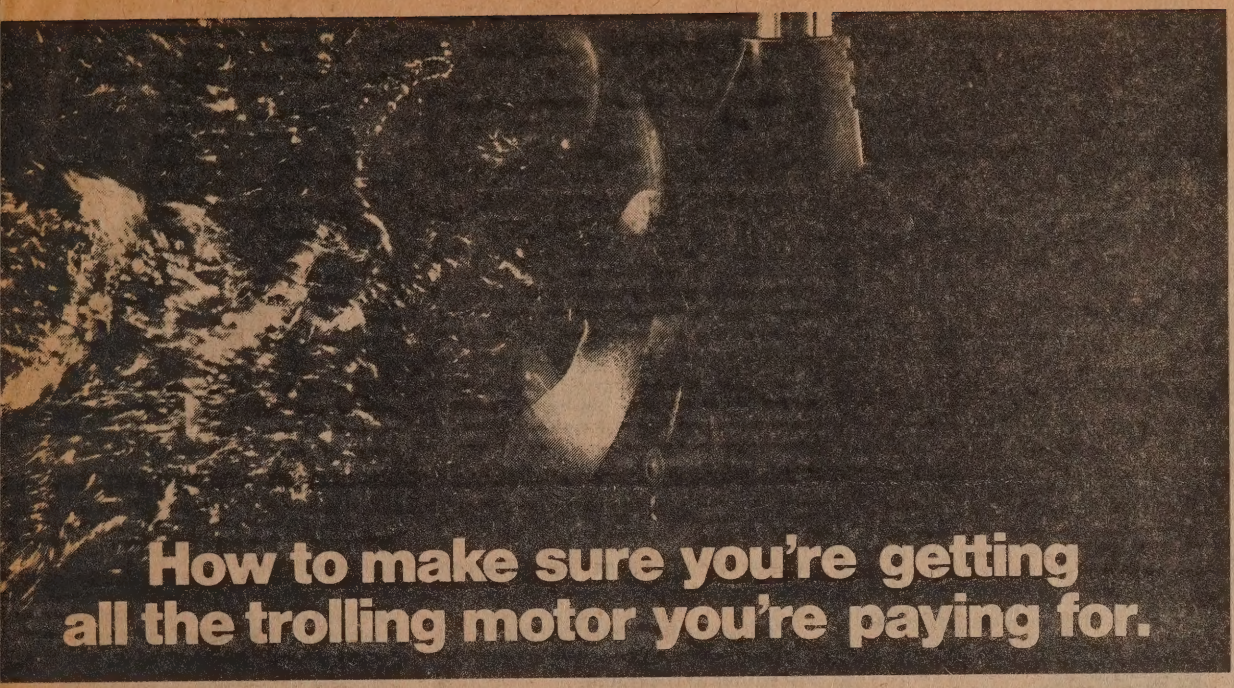
Printed annually since 1962, Boating Almanacs position on portions of Ocean Survey Charts all facilities open to the boating public on tidal waters, including marinas, yacht clubs, boat yards, fishing camps and launching ramps. Full information personally gathered annually by on-site inspection ensuring accuracy, includes mailing address, telephone numbers, and services available.

Also included are area Tide and Current tables, Tidal Current charts, sources for weather information, as well as RDF information.

The 1978 Boating Almanacs are available in marinas, boat supply and book stores at $4.25 each. Out of area purchases may be made direct (75 cents additional postage) from the publisher: Boating Almanac Co., Inc., 603 McKinsey Road, Severna Park, Maryland. 21146.

MOST WANTED!

Will J. Furst; L. Ammirati; J. McCabe, and Wilson Chin, please contact the L.I.F. office—(516) 725-4200. We need your addresses!



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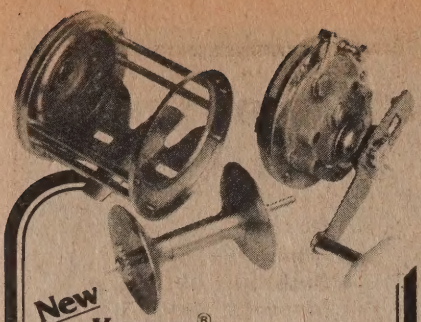
Shakespeare 606 That's how.



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CHUM LINES

THANKS FOR TAKING TIME FOR ME.

I admire your concern in my letter about eel pots. Most company's or magazine publishers and editors would not go through all the trouble of digging the information up. I think you are doing a fine job. I bought and read your books from the LIF and found them to be the best books I have ever read about fishing. Now, I have been catching all kinds of fish. I could not have done it without The Long Island Fisherman!! Thank you again. **Ray Mohler, Valley Stream, N.Y.**

Thanks, Ray, it was our pleasure. Have a good fishing year!

COMMENTS ON COD RIGS

A word about conservation-minded codfishing at Montauk.

Fishing rocky bottom and wrecks causes loss of terminal tackle. Bad, but not as bad as leaving cod attached to the hook at the bottom of the sea. The sinker is the first to get snagged and consequently, the hooked or soon to be hooked cod, i.e., witness the result of a set line. Sinker clips that open under stress would save a lot of otherwise wasted codfish. **Bill Coster, Jackson Heights, N.Y.**

KEEPING TIGHT LINES IN THE SURF

I am a reader of your magazine and I have an idea that may be a problem of some surfcasters. Sometimes the bait or lure can't be casted out far enough without the line snapping. I sometimes have this problem and what I do is get some 40 lb. line and tie it the length of the rod, plus 1½ or 2 feet longer; then tie on whatever is needed—lure, weight, etc. I join 40 and 17 lb. line together with a clinch or blood knot and it seems to do the job. **Ray Carini, NYC.**

You are quite right. Surf fishermen do, at times, have problems when throwing heavy lures and big baits. The system that you use is called a "shocker." You indicate that your basic line on the reel is 17 lb. test and that you join a length of 40 lb. test line to it. Of course, there are many ways to skin a cat and the ultimate test of a method is whether it works or not, but most regulars do not normally attempt to make their shocker out of a line that tests out so significantly higher than the line on the reel because it is difficult to tie a good blood knot when the lines are so different. Usually, 20 or 25 lb. is joined to 12 or 15 lb. test line on the reel. Forty pound test really isn't necessary, since it takes a hell of a lot of force to break 20 or 30 lb. test. Try using a shocker that's a little closer to your line and I think that you'll find that the knots are easier to make and hold up better and that there is a lot less interference when casting.

TO STRETCH OR NOT TO STRETCH?

Fishing is my major hobby and sport and I have been a subscriber to LIF for several years. I find the "Fisherman" to be the most informative and helpful publication on the market. I am always willing to experiment with your new ideas and suggestions. Therefore, I feel confident you can assist me with my inquiry.

During a cod trip offshore of Fire Island last fall, I found the stretch in monofilament line to be unbelievable. I would, this year, like to try braided Dacron in place of monofilament line. Since cod are "line shy," what color would you suggest I use? Would I be better off trying the new braided monofilament?

I've read in the LIF about Captain John DeMaio's jig which has been so successful in Montauk and was wondering when I can expect to see it on the market.

I'm sure you will be able to answer my questions, and want to take this opportunity to thank you for your help. Keep up the good work! **Michael J. Farrar, Flushing, N.Y.**

Thanks very much for the kind words of confidence. We try our best to serve our readers with the best information available and it's always nice to hear that we are achieving some measure of success. Your stretch problems with monofilament are not unusual. In fact, some of the LIF staff have filled a few spools with lines that are promoted as having less stretch because there are just some types of fishing situations that require that the line stretch as little as possible. Monofilament is still, and will be for the near future, the best all-around line available for most situations. We're trying MICRON line, WEB line, and braided mono this year. Field testing is the best way to evaluate these products. We'll hold off judgement until we have seen the products perform when the going gets tough. Why not try one and let us know how you made out?

The DeMaio jig will be produced this year by AVA Tackle and should be on the market soon. It produced well for us and should be a great seller. There will also be another locally-produced jig that will imitate the abundant sand eel bait. It is called the Sand Eel Jig and is produced by Tri-Fin Tackle. We tried some prototypes and had excellent results with these lures, too.

BOATING

U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY ANNOUNCES SAFETY PROGRAM

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, in cooperation with the United States Coast Guard, has announced an intensive campaign to improve safety on the waterways this summer. This campaign features a "free" Courtesy Motor-boat Examination (CME). Examining stations are to be set up at major marinas and launching ramps. Boats will be inspected for compliance with Federal and State safety regulations. Safety equipment, life jackets, fire extinguishers, etc., will be inspected. The public is urged to take advantage of this free service. All Auxiliary inspectors will be in Auxiliary Uniforms. Inspection stations will be identified by the official CME seal. This will be prominently displayed so that the area is easily identified.

For additional information, questions may be directed to the Coast Guard Public Relations Officer at (516) 333-1979.

CLUB NEWS

HUNTINGTON ANGLERS' CLUB 1978 OFFICERS

The officers of the Huntington Angler's Club for 1978 were installed at a recent meeting held at the VFW, 210 W. Pulaski Rd., Huntington Station, N.Y. 11746:

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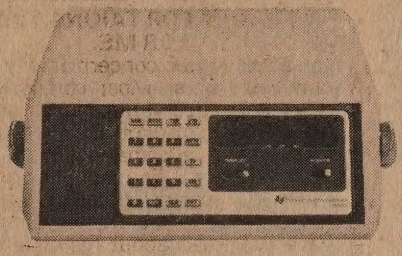

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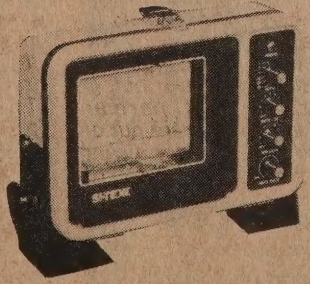

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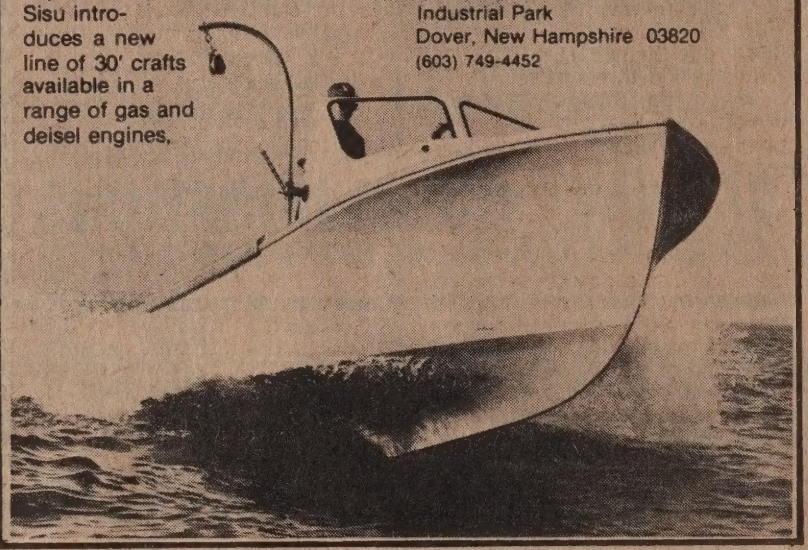

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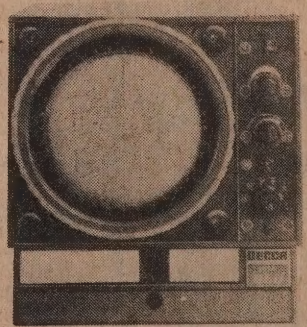

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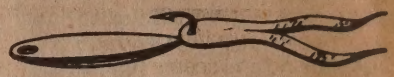


Pass It On...

STRIPERS UNLIMITED NEWS

Since Maryland has now acted to protect the striped bass spawning areas during the spawning season, it remains to be seen what the coastal states will do to help preserve the remaining spawning stocks.

Maryland has moved to restrict all sport and commercial fishing for striped bass from April 26 to June 1 on main striper spawning rivers, from source to mouth, in an effort to preserve the brood stock. Poor reproduction over the last few years has precipitated this drastic action.

There are other steps being considered for the future, such as increasing the minumum length in Maryland from 12-14 inches, thus preserving the small males for another spawning season. Funds permitting, research efforts may be undertaken to study the causes of the recent poor reproduction of the Maryland striper population.

Since the Maryland sports and commercial fishermen are being asked to make sacrifices for the protection of the striped bass fishery, it certainly behooves the sports and commercial fishermen in the coastal states, which benefit from these migratory stocks, to back legislation aimed at preserving both the small "schoolies" and the large breeders.

Maryland biologists have suggested that the coastal states enact a minimum length of 24 or 26 inches. Certainly another useful step would be limiting the catch of the large breeders.

Since we are harvesting mainly 1964 and 1970 year class fish along the Coast, and in some places very heavily, it would be a wise move to try and spread out the catch over a longer period instead of gearing up to harvest as many as possible, as some so-called "sportfishermen" are now doing.

We believe the coastal states should follow Maryland's example and do their share to preserve the remaining stocks. If we don't, then the Maryland fishermen would have a legitimate reason to balk at any further efforts to limit their catch.

We urge our members to support any efforts at striped bass regulation in their respective states which may be forthcoming.

NATIONAL SCENE

NEWS & NOTES ON THE WORLD OF FISHING
with Al Ristori

Bluefish Situation Looks Better

While no one seems to have all the answers as yet, the potential problem of bluefish seining by tuna seiners seems to be on the back burner at this time. Augustus Genovese, Captain of the seiner "White Dove," has made some noise about catching bluefish this summer, but Bill Gordon, NE Director of NMFS, feels it is only a reaction to the tuna regulations. As far as anyone can determine there are no contracts with Japan, Africa, or anywhere else—and without export contracts there is little likelihood that such a fishery will be attempted.

Nevertheless, everyone is keeping a close eye on this situation. The Subcommittee on Fisheries of the House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee is holding a hearing on both the bluefish and bluefin tuna problems on April 24. I'll be testifying at that hearing and will report further in the next column. The Committee has already been looking into the bluefish rumors and Representative Edwin Forsythe (R-N.J.) recently issued a statement urging anglers not to panic as it didn't appear as if anything significant was going to occur this summer.

In the meantime, the Mid-Atlantic Council has continued to forge ahead with its bluefish management plan. At the latest meeting in Williamsburgh, Virginia, the Council requested that NMFS make two of its bluefish experts available to the Council in order to expedite preparation. Work on the draft was scheduled to start at the end of April, with draft completion tentatively slated for July. The advisory sub-panel was selected at this meeting and, along with the Scientific and Statistical Committee, will be called upon for input within the next two months. If all goes well, we should have a management plan in effect by this time next year.

Fluke Management Plan Delegated To State-Federal Program

At its latest meeting, the Council voted to delegate development of a draft plan for fluke to the State-Federal Program. Statistics indicate that a large portion of the commercial fluke catch comes from inshore waters. While there are few accurate statistics relating to the recreational fishery for fluke, it's fair to assume that virtually all of that catch is taken within three miles—state jurisdiction. Therefore, in order to have an effective management plan, it will be necessary to have meaningful regulations and cooperation within state waters.

At the March meeting, a procedure was developed for the Council to work directly with the states on this plan. Most members now feel that, in order to lighten the load on Council staff and provide for maximum state participation, the State-Federal program should take the initiative with funds provided by the Council. Bill Feinberg and I tried to have a time limitation placed on the State-Federal operation, but were voted down. Our only concern was the possible delay involved in preparing a draft plan. Since the Council retains responsibility beyond three miles, we'll still have to go through the entire procedure of hearings and approvals before a management plan can be put into effect.

The fluke fishery is presently under a great deal of pressure. Long Island Councilman Bill Pell reported that, due to high prices, tiny fluke fillets (seventeen to a pound) were coming into the New York market despite the State's fourteen inch minimum length law. Norman Angel, a North Carolina fish dealer (and South Atlantic Council observer at our meetings), noted that sky-high prices are resulting in overfishing of the fluke stocks and urged us to come up with a management plan in short order. Long Island and New Jersey anglers certainly need no reminder about the relatively poor fluke fishing experienced last season. Though there is an absolute requirement for State cooperation in developing a meaningful management program for fluke, we cannot afford to delay offshore management for years. Bill and I plan to press for regular reports on this plan and hope it will turn out to be a shining example of what can be accomplished through that program. In the case of strictly inshore species, such as the striped bass, this program is our only real hope.

Council Members Visit VIMS

The Williamsburgh meeting provided the opportunity for Council members to visit the reknowned Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) located at historic Gloucester Point, across the York River from Yorktown. Not only is this a training ground for many of the country's marine scientists, but also a leading center of marine-oriented research. Oysters are a prime concern in that area and the Institute is doing a great deal of work in breeding disease-resistant strains. Some of the problems they run into are interesting. For instance, in developing resistance to MSX disease, they ended up with an oyster that lacked other desirable qualities and then had to work backwards to come up with a reasonable compromise. Breeding work is also going on with large Japanese oysters. The problem with the oriental shellfish is that its texture isn't up to the quality of the Virginia oyster. The research scientists are trying various combinations to come up with an oyster that will be disease-resistant, of greater size, and still just as delicious!

An interesting tidbit about oysters: according to an expert at VIMS, an oyster can produce up to 125,000,000 eggs. Under laboratory conditions, eighty-five percent survival is possible; while hatcheries can get up to sixty percent. Just think what would happen if oysters weren't so susceptible to disease, starfish, rays, pollution, etc.! For a dedicated oyster fancier such as myself, the prospect of being inundated by that bivalve isn't altogether unpleasant. Unfortunately, I suspect that there's little likelihood of our ever seeing oyster prices much lower than they are now.

VIMS is also doing a great deal of work on fish diseases. The concentration is on the many diseases affecting striped bass ("rockfish" in the south). Except for one particular virus affecting the brain, the scientists feel that most of the disfiguring diseases that anglers sometimes see on stripers really aren't deadly, though they may interfere with the normal growth of the fish. Surprisingly, these researchers weren't aware of the strange die-off of large stripers in Long Island Sound last summer—a factor that could prove very significant in their work.

Also through the courtesy of Council member, Dr. Bill Hargis, we were treated to a tour of the Mariners' Museum in Newport News. Hargis is Director of VIMS and President of the Museum. Anyone interested in ships of any type should make a visit to Mariners' Museum a must. The collection of everything from ship models to scrimshaw to paintings, ceramics, and huge figureheads is fascinating. Just give yourself plenty of time!

Spanish Ship Nailed, But Foreign By-Catch Generally Way Down

The Coast Guard recently escorted a Spanish ship into New York due to repeated violations of fishing regulations, such as the use of undersized mesh, fishing within two miles of fixed gear, and failure to report fixed gear brought up in their nets. Ironically, this vessel had an observer aboard, yet still continued the violations. There was no State Department opposition to this seizure. By and large however, foreign vessels have been obeying regulations and our biggest problems have been with domestic fishermen. Observer reports show foreign by-catch to be generally

(Continued on page 43.)

FISH TALK
with Dr. William A. Muller

SPINY DOGFISH
Squalus acanthias

DOGGIES, AS THEY ARE "AFFECTIONATELY" CALLED. The dogfish is considered by many fishermen to be a pest, yet there are other anglers who not only enjoy catching them, but eating them too. I'm not a connoisseur of this fish, but ensuring the quality of the fish for food seems to depend a great deal on prompt and proper cleaning and bleeding. Most fishermen who do eat dogfish say that they are very tasty, but that the fish must be skinned and cleaned immediately. If these precautions are not taken, urea builds up quickly in the tissues of the fish, making them less than desirable table fare.

DESCRIPTION. Dogfish are basically gray, but may have brownish tones. The shark is slender with a flat head and a blunt snout. Like most sharks, the pectoral fins are positioned low on the body. This is an evolutionary adaptation among sharks since these fins are used as stabilizers as the fish swim and glide about continuously. Dogfish have very small teeth and as such, they are not likely to inflict deep wounds when handled carefully. However, since the teeth are numerous and because the points are bent towards the corners of the mouth, they form an excellent cutting edge which enables these sharks to be effective predators on the small fish that they pursue most of the time.

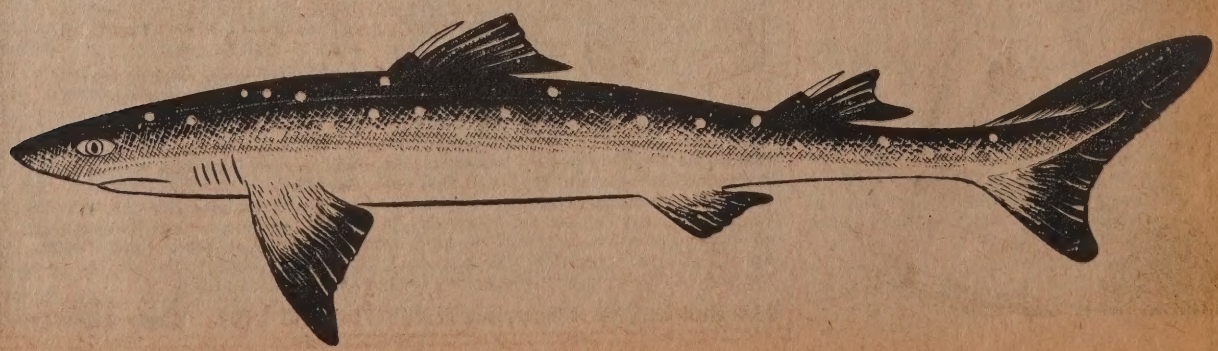
COLOR. The color of dogfish is generally rather uniform, except for a series of white dots that are conspicuous. There are usually about eight spots and they begin above the pectoral fins and continue, spaced in a rather uniform distribution, backwards to the anal fin. The spots are most obvious in young specimens and gradually fade during the maturation process so that some adults may lack them completely. The ventral surface (belly) of the doggies may be pale gray or pure white.

THE SPINE'S THE THING. Shakespeare wrote in Hamlet that "The play's the thing to catch the conscience of the King." Well, I hope that the spines of a doggy aren't the undoing of any of our fishing family! The most definitive characteristic of the spiny dogfish is its spines and there is one in front of each element of the dorsal fin. These spines are very sharp and are used by the animal for defense. When attacked they will curl up so that both spines protrude and cannot be avoided by a threatening attacker. This characteristic makes them difficult to deal with on a hook, and extreme care should be used when unhooking them. There appears to be some evidence that the spines are somewhat poisonous. The degree to which the secreted material or poison affects people seems to vary. There does exist gland tissue along the back of the spines which resembles the poison glands of a certain venomous weever. It may well be that only a mucus secretion is produced by these glands, but it is also likely that this secretion could produce a severe reaction among allergic individuals. In any event, friends and associates who report no such severe reactions have indicated to me that a rash or infection usually results when the spines abrade the surface of the skin.

SIZE. There is a difference in the size of males and females. Females usually reach a larger size than the males. The average size of an adult female will be about three feet, while males usually average two feet. There is also a difference in weight. Adult females average less than ten pounds, but it is not that unusual to encounter specimens that weigh around twenty pounds.

SCHOOLING BEHAVIOR. Most fish in the sea group by size, but without regard to sex. This is not so among dogfish. Immature fish will swim and feed in large schools where males and females are mixed. Medium sized fish will usually consist of mature males and immature females while schools of very large specimens will consist exclusively of females. Dogfish do not migrate or feed in poorly associated groups. The schools will be large and quite dense and of uniform size. For this reason when they are encountered by fishermen almost all of the specimens will be of amazingly uniform size. Dogfish schools move both in response to changing water temperatures and the movements of their prey. Thus, doggies may not return to the exact same feeding spots each year, although they will return to the same general area. Since the doggies are such voracious feeders, after feeding on a school of squid or mackerel for a few days they will tend to drive these creatures off. The dogfish will follow. Thus, fishermen may encounter tremendous quantities of dogfish one day and none the next.

NOT BASHFUL FEEDERS! Dogfish have a bad reputation that is apparently well deserved. They are not bashful, and although they prefer smaller baits and fishes, they are not above bothering larger fish such as cod. There have been reports that "wolf-packs" type groups of doggies will attack a larger cod and rip it to pieces. These reports remain largely unconfirmed, however. The diet consists mostly of squid; mackerel, herring, young groundfish, worms, shrimps, crabs, and in general, anything that they can find, eat, and successfully conquer. They have also been known to attack hooked fish and especially proven themselves to be a great problem for commercial fishermen using set lines. Many fishermen believe that it is useless to attempt to fish for other species when they are plentiful. In our own experience, we have stumbled into their midsts only on a few occasions—thankfully. One instance, particularly, stands out in my memory. A few years ago, there was a very good run of large and medium sized stripers along Montauk's south side beaches. Most of the bass were feeding in about forty to sixty feet of water. Overnight, the doggies moved in and as we diamond jigged for bass, we took dogfish after dogfish on the jigs meant for bass. These dogs proved excellent adver-



saries on medium tackle and most of the fish ranged between sixteen and twenty pounds.

DOC GRELL'S METHOD. Dogfish can be counted on to mess up the south shore codfishing season, especially during the early portion of the run when the cod may be scarce and the doggies plentiful. Doc Grell has found that he can often feed the doggies so that they either move off or no longer pester his baited hooks. Thereafter, he catches cod. He waits out the process and counts the dogfish. He is willing to catch a certain number of the dogs and when that number is reached if the cod do not start coming, he'll move off convinced that there are too many dogfish in that area.

REPRODUCTION. Most fishermen know that dogfish give birth to their young live. This is not the same process common to mammals; rather being similar to the way guppies hold and bear their young live. The female merely holds the eggs so that the young may develop within the protection of her body. There is no physical connection between the mother and her developing embryos. Live birth among fish seems to be an evolutionary adaptation to a limited reproductive capacity. Since the young are retained until they are larger, the likelihood of survival of any given individual is much higher. The females carry the young for about a year-and-a-half. The size of the "litter" is typically about four, five, or six, but may be as large as ten or eleven or as low as two or three. Newborns are about ten inches long. The season for birth is generally the winter, but may extend into the spring.

MIGRATION. The dogs are typical of temperate and sub-arctic oceans on both sides of the North Atlantic, as well as the northern Pacific. In the Southern Hemisphere there are similar, but different, species. The dogs spend their summers in more northern waters and the winter months off southern New England. They will also migrate offshore when the water gets either too warm or too cold during periods when they are not migrating. Hence, they are basically spring and fall transient visitors to Long Island waters. Thank goodness. Now that's a prejudiced point of view and maybe some day I'll learn to appreciate them more, but for now I'd rather catch bass, cod, or whatever.

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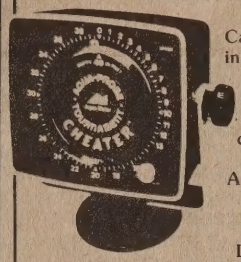

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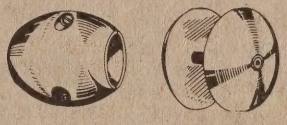

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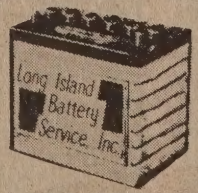

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EDITOR'S NOTE:
Although this article is being run well in advance of the preferred June time for this fishing, we hope that it will give you time to arrange your gear and secure a permit for Breezy Point if this article inspires you.

Surf Side with John Fritz

WORMS IN JUNE FOR BREEZY BASS

Surf fishermen in the western portion of the Island have few opportunities to engage in their sport with a fair chance of success. While a considerable amount of fishable waters are located here, many areas are inaccessible, others are dangerous, while a sizeable amount consists of Jamaica Bay which requires special knowledge and fishing techniques. One area open to all is comprised of the oceanfront at Breezy Point—now known as a part of Gateway National Park. Although many methods can be used to catch striped bass—both here and on other beaches in this part of the Island—one method in particular used by sharpie and novice alike, is bait fishing. The number of ways to fish bait is almost as diversified as the types of bait which can be chosen. The list runs the gamut from whole bunker hung on a large treble hook and slung into the surf from the jetties to stringing several grass shrimp on a tiny hook in the quiet waters of the back bay. Several methods require expertise, but the practice of fishing sand worms from a fish finder rig can be mastered by anyone who can cast and is willing to spend a little time on the beach.

The best time to start fishing worms at Breezy is during the first week of June when the migrating bass move along the beaches en route to their summer hide-outs. The most productive time of day to fish is after the sun sets, when the bass lose their caution and forage into shallow water.

On bright moonlit nights, the need of an artificial light is not really necessary; but during the new moon period or when skies are overcast, some method of illuminating your rod must be found. Many pick-ups will go by unnoticed in a dim light unless you want to hold the rod in your hands. A coleman Lantern is probably the best device to use to light up your area. The intensity of the light cast by one of these lanterns is sufficient to shine on several rods strung out along the water's edge. Reflector tape glued to the top of your rod from the first guide to the tiptop will greatly aid in detecting slight movements of your rod tip.

The price of sand worms in the past few years has skyrocketed, but with the time and effort one spends engaged in a night's fishing, it does not pay to be too frugal when baiting your hook. Two or three good sized sand worms should be hooked through the mouth with the point exiting a quarter of an inch or so from behind the head. Push the worms slightly up the shank of the hook and let their bodies float enticingly in the currents.

Years ago, straight shanked hooks with the leader wrapped onto the shank of the hook with thread were available. These hooks permitted an angler to thread the worms further up the shank, effectively stringing them in a line so that the point of the hook is positioned somewhere near the center of the bait. Short striking fish are often hooked in this manner although when this problem does occur, a small tandem hook will serve the same purpose. Since these hooks are difficult, if not impossible to obtain nowadays, either a small short-shanked tuna hook or the bait saver type hooks can be used. The size hook to use depends on the size fish prevalent at the time, but I would start with the 2/0 size and adjust my rig accordingly: which is to say, smaller hooks if the fish are small or picky and larger hooks if the fish are cows.

Since a good supply of fresh bait is necessary to ensure success, it is better to buy your worms by the flat rather than several dozen individual boxes. Money can be saved in the price per dozen, while the tendency to skimp with the bait is greatly reduced. Worms, when kept in the large cardboard box with the plentiful supply of seaweed, will stay alive much longer.

Now that you have a plentiful supply of bait, it is not necessary to feed all the crabs in the ocean. The addition of a cork will solve this problem, but one thought should be kept in mind. Since it is assumed that you are using a fish finder rig which lets the line float free from the sinker, care must be taken to prevent the cork from floating the bait too far off the bottom. Worse yet, it could float to the top in shallow water and be picked up by foraging gulls in the pre-dawn light. The amount of slack line and the distance the cork is from the hook is a matter which must be solved during each outing. Sometimes the fish are

feeding right on the bottom; at other times several feet above.

One method used to ascertain the feeding zone of the fish is to use two rods. Fish one rod shallow and a good distance off the beach, while the other rod can be fished deep just beyond the breaking surf. Experiment if no action is forthcoming, change the position of the cork or try reeling the distant rig slowly towards the beach.

Since the bottom at Breezy is sandy, pyramid sinkers are the type to use. Depending on surf conditions, anywhere from two to six ounces of lead may be needed. If the surf is too wild where you can't hold bottom, the water tends to become too dirty with little chance of success.

Moderate southwest winds are favored in this area, but some fish can be taken on winds from other quarters as long as the surf is fairly clean.

While high water is preferred here, I have seen some decent bass taken on low water. One idea is to start fishing at the top of the tide and fish the dropping water. When the water is low, try wading out as far as possible before casting, for the fish often move off the beach with the receding tide.

The more preferred areas to fish at Breezy are found to the west towards the jetty. This jetty is a prime location to try with swimming plugs if for any reason you decide to stop fishing bottom. Care must be taken because there are some low spots that must be crossed towards the tip, and often breaking waves from a heavy surf can wash an unwary angler off his feet.

A small assortment of plugs and tins should be carried if you intend to fish through the night into the dawn. Occasionally bluefish can be taken in the first few hours of daylight.

Beach buggies have been allowed on this beach in the past, which permits an angler to carry a large assortment of equipment. If you must walk, the amount of tackle will have to kept at a minimum because of the distance involved. Buggy operators must check in at the Ranger station located near the foot of the bridge. This office is situated in the first building on your right as you enter the gate to Fort Tilden.

Last year four-wheel drive vehicles were checked for the necessary equipment. This list included: fishing tackle, spare tire, jack and jack board, shovel, tow chain, and tire inflating device. A permit was issued and a key to the gate allowing entry to the beach was given. This key must be returned to the Ranger office when leaving the beach.

Other areas on Long Island receive the publicity, but those who dislike travel can stay in their back yards and catch bass. Last June many teen-sized stripers were taken from this beach and past records show that this feat is accomplished with regularity.

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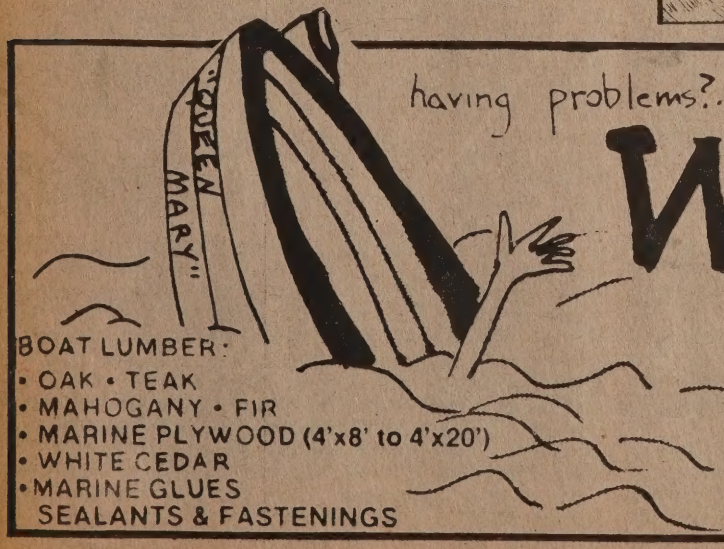

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Sinker Bouncing

with Matt Ahern

MACKEREL FISHING

Al Dunn and I lounged against the bow rail of Artie Leidecker's "Echo," conversing quietly, enjoying the camaraderie of our friendship; the rhythmical, gentle lift of the sea, the crispness of an early May morning, and yet not allowing our attention to wander in our determined search for signs of feeding mackerel. Somewhere in the midst of a tall tale, Al grabbed my arm. "Look!" He pointed off to starboard. "Diving gannets. There's got to be mackerel under them!" I motioned to Artie to cut our speed, but he had already beaten me to it. "I see 'em," he called. "We'll get upwind and drift down." The luck of the Irish. Only forty minutes before we had put Jones Inlet astern, and here we were, due south, and already into possible action. Artie brought the Echo around in a wide sweep, maneuvered us into position and cut the engine. Aided by a gentle southwest wind, we drifted fair and true. As we got closer to the working birds, I noticed a flock of fearless gulls resting on the water, aware of our presence, yet reluctant to leave the expected easy pickings. Another good sign. We took up positions along the starboard rail and quickly lowered four ounce diamond jigs at various depths and began jigging with snapping lifts of our rods.

Al got the first hit. His rod arched as the hooked mackerel made a dash under the boat. I immediately tossed over a marker buoy. Al battled his fish to the surface and lifted aboard a fine fat mackerel: about a pound-and-a-half. "They're down about twenty-five feet," he said, in answer to our unasked question.

Artie reeled up to the required depth and I put my reel into free-spool. allowing the lure to sink to what I hoped was that most important feeding zone. Pow! I got that rod-stopping jolt every mackerel fisherman knows. We had our second mackerel of the season—a mate to the first.

We continued to drift for perhaps a half-mile, nailing a fish now and then, but reaping no bonanza. Artie reeled in and placed his rod against the rail. "We must have cut through one corner of a small school," he said. "We'll go back to the buoy and anchor up. It looks as if we'll have to do a little chumming, fellers."

And that is what we did.

Al carefully ladled the prepared bunker chum over the side into the tide every few minutes while Artie and I did our best to get the fish started. Perhaps ten of those minutes went by before we got results. It seemed then as if an undersea curtain had lifted, and on signal the mackerel went into a feeding frenzy. Our troubles were over, and for over an hour we put fat, scrappy mackerel into the tub before we decided to call it quits. Enough was enough.

The foregoing describes one of our typical mackerel fishing days as it is today.

Before "detente-happy" foreign fishing fleets got into the act, however, mackerel schools were larger and there was less trouble finding and putting fish in the bucket. In the wonderful days of plenty, it was seldom more than a matter of anchoring over known grounds and getting chum over the side, or if you were a private boat fisherman, drift over those grounds, flash your diamond jigs, and be assured of action. Today, due to overfishing, it is a different story. Fishermen have learned to expect less action and fewer fish. But fortunately, with a little effort, there are still enough mackerel available for those seeking them.

Mackerel are fighting fools, and I'm sure experienced fishermen will agree with that. I've caught good sized fall mackerel occasionally while flashing a diamond jig for cod and they've never failed to amaze the skeptics aboard. Yes, they are scrappers, all right, but when after springtime mackerel, it's best to use a rod that will give maximum sport.

In this respect, a medium-weight boat rod and a matching revolving spool reel capable of holding at least 100 yards of twenty pound test mono is ideal. Unless you expect to do your fishing aboard a private or charter boat, I'd forget spinning tackle. When several mackerel take hold at one time (which is a common occurrence when using plastic tube lures) the fish are hard to control with this whippy stuff. It will also promote many annoying tangles with neighboring fishermen and harsh words become common.

To entice these scrappy fish, most fellows use a highly-polished jig, plus a mackerel tree. With this combination, double and triple-headers are common throughout the day. I've never been overjoyed about this (what are you going to do with all those fish?); therefore, I use nothing more lethal than a single lure—which is usually a two to four ounce diamond jig. One fish at a time is enough for me and at the end of the day, I find I'm not too far behind the multi-hook fishermen anyway.

The choice of doing this is yours, of course. But if you add a mackerel tree, or several plastic tubes, be sure to use nothing less than twenty pound mono. When fishing the lure alone, I always use ten pound test stuff. This light line gives the jig that tantalizing action mackerel find hard to resist.

You'll find a variety of lures are used to attract mackerel. Diamond jigs are perhaps favored, but such lures as the Hopkins and similar types can be counted upon to produce. One freshwater fisherman of my acquaintance puts his faith in a large treble-hook Swedish Pimple used for lake trout trolling.

Most fishermen attach their jig to the main line with either a snap swivel or a double-overhand knotted loop. The snap swivel is convenient and quick; the overhand loop, sloppy. I use neither, but simply employ an improved clinch knot. The lure has better action; there is no distracting swivel vying for the mackerel's attention, and you do away with the possibility of the jig fouling in the loop. Experience has shown that paying attention to such minor details puts fish in the bucket. Incidentally, if you do decide to use a snap swivel, make sure its finish is dull; else you will miss many strikes due to the mackerel's inherent fondness for bright objects.

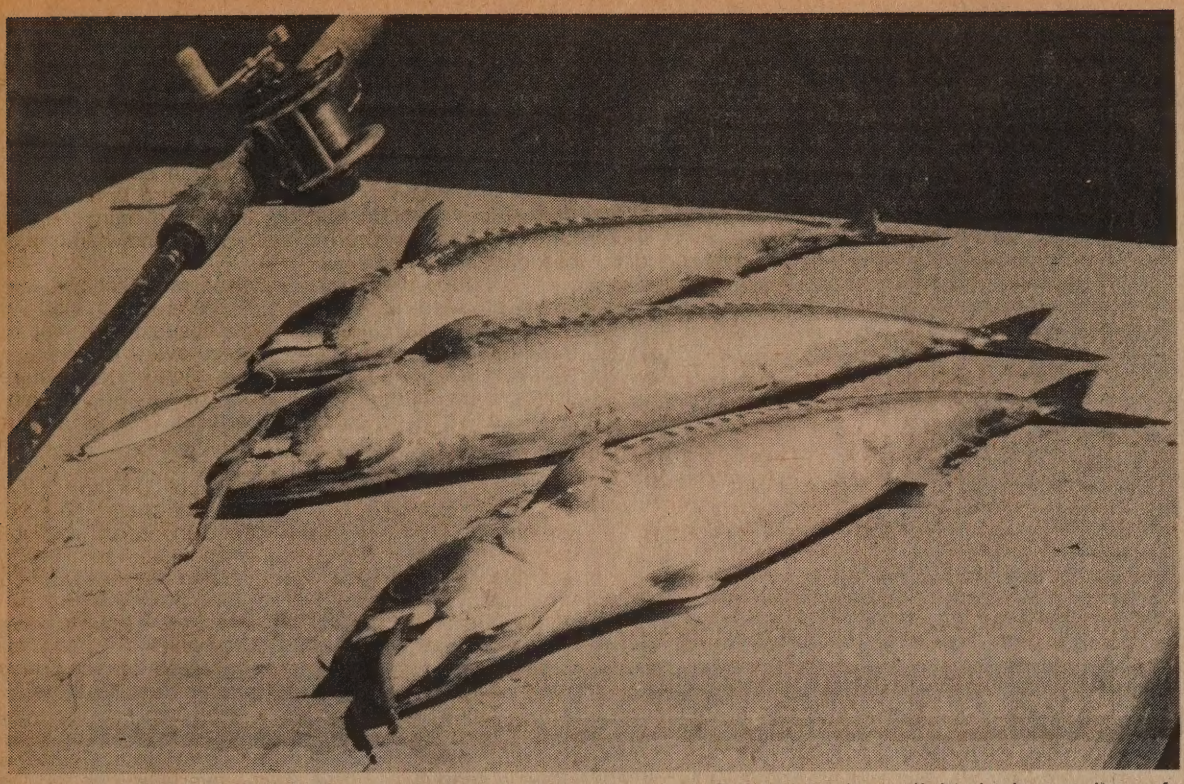
Some fellows lacking a jig use a four ounce sinker as weight to get their mackerel trees down to the feeding fish. But don't you do it! This should only be considered an emergency method at best. Contrary to what many fishermen believe, it is the flash of the jig that attracts mackerel to the multi-hook rig—not the other way around. This is especially important if fish are difficult to locate and you are drifting around looking for action. Once the fish are located, or drawn into a chum line, you might get away with a sinker-weighted rig; but don't expect too much success before that.

Mackerel trees and plastic tubes are great fish-producers and I know it is too much to expect anyone to ignore them when double and triple-headers come up. If you don't have one with you, don't despair. One can be quickly made by using several unsnelled 2/0 regular-shanked Limerick or O'Shaughnessy hooks. Just form three-inch double-overhand knotted loops in your main line about eight inches apart. Run the loop through the hook eye, then over the hook and secure tightly by snubbing against the shank.

When made this way, the loops serve as snells and also aid in holding the hooks out and away from the main line. I've caught many mackerel with this simple, quickly-made rig as the fish have no qualms about striking bare hooks—especially when in a chum line. It is important that hooks have a bright finish. Remember, however, that it is still necessary to use a diamond jig or other highly-polished lure to attract mackerel to bare hooks.

For the angler who has never gone mackerel fishing, I believe it best to first try his luck aboard a party boat. The most discouraging thing that may happen to this fellow when aboard these boats is his possible inability to get action when others are bailing fish like there's no tomorrow.

This doesn't happen often, but when it does, there is



only one reason: if he's rigged the same as those getting the action, and he is doing the required jigging, he's not fishing at the proper depth. This may seem hard to believe, especially when fish can be seen swimming shoulder-to-shoulder just beneath the surface. But actually, the fish doing the feeding are seldom seen. They may be down anywhere from ten to forty feet—perhaps more. Your rig must be in that feeding zone.

What's to be done, then? The easiest approach is to ask one of the fellows bailing the fish. Perhaps he'll tell you the depth is twenty feet, but unless the queried fisherman is an old hand at the mackerel game, that may not mean too much. It is pretty difficult to quote precise water depth under these conditions, although some veteran anglers can do it easy enough. What may seem to be twenty feet to some, may actually be fifteen or twenty-five. And those few feet make a world of difference when mackerel fishing.

I believe in this case the best procedure is to put the reel into free-spool, allow the jig to reach bottom and begin a slow retrieve, jigging and reeling in the slack until the first fish is hooked. The exact depth will still be unknown, but if the fisherman spots his line with a dab of quick-drying marker ink, it's not necessary. All that's required after that is to drop the jig overboard and watch the peeling line until the ink spot shows up; the fish will be there.

Sometimes mackerel will vary their feeding depth throughout the day. If they do, the solution is to repeat the marking process. Before that happens, though, most fishermen will have taken enough fish and begin to think about returning home. Again—what are you going to do with all those fish?

So much for the basics pertaining to mackerel fishing aboard party boats. But what about those private boat fishermen who would like to get in on the action? No problem.

What works for party boat fishing will also be effective aboard private craft with but minor variations. First, you will have to find the fish on your own; but this isn't difficult. Watch for signs of sea birds such as diving gannets and gulls. These can usually be counted upon to pinpoint possible action.

Don't plan on excellent mackerel fishing when the sea is rough. Get out on those days offering what the old-timers called a "mackerel sea," which is one where the sea is flat and carries a slight ripple over its surface. Wind direction is not important in this respect, but it should be light for best results.

Begin drifting over the forty-foot depths, then gradually work offshore to the hundred-foot line. Somewhere between these depths you will find mackerel.

If you decide to anchor and use bunker chum, it is necessary to mix it carefully with sea water until it reaches the consistency of thin soup. Ladle it sporadically; don't over-do. You don't want to over-feed. What you are attempting to do when chumming is to whet the fish's appetite—no more. Force them to go on the prowl and seek the source of supply. Over-do and you'll keep the fish out of reach. Once the fish respond, someone should sweeten the chum line occasionally. If too much of a break is allowed in the slick, the fish will depart for greener pastures and you'll have your work to do over again in another area.

Correct chumming is most important when only a few fishermen are aboard. Party boats can afford to space their chumming activities once the fish respond because all those lines in the water create their own chum line in a sense. But private boat fishermen must not overlook the importance of keeping their fish in a feeding mood.

Be as quiet as possible. Mackerel are skittish. Dropping tackle boxes or heavy-footed stomping should be avoided. Talk, yell, scream, whistle—anything—but don't pound that deck if you wish to keep mackerel around the boat.

Should the fish stop biting and can still be seen milling around below the surface, remove your jig and mackerel trees and replace with a common flounder hook. Bait with one or two of those bunker hearts you'll find in the chum container (or a **small** piece of mackerel belly), add one or two split shot to the snell near the hook shank for weight, peel the line from the reel and let the current carry it off. All you will feel is a slight pick. That's your signal to hook the fish. Don't wait for that smashing strike you received when using the jig; you won't get it when bait fishing. Be prepared for a merry time, for mackerel hooked with this method really battle.

If you've never gone mackerel fishing before, you are missing out on first class sport. As a dedicated fisherman, you owe it to yourself to do so. Quite possibly you won't be able to wait until your next trip. I know I never can, and never could. Try it—you'll see what I mean.

Early Season Fluke from the Beach

by Herb Gu

Cool water will keep the flesh of your fluke firm and in good condition.

My shore line fishing season begins with flounders and ends with flounders because they are the fish that are most available from shore both early and late in the year. By the month of May, my horizons expand, with chances for weakfish, blackfish, and fluke. Because I like variety, I give all of these a good try, and if one fish is not available, I try for another. Early fluking is generally not too reliable, but for the last two seasons, the sand bar at Robert Moses Bridge has produced better than any other spot that I know of in this area of Long Island.

Don't expect to murder fluke from shore anywhere. They just have not been that abundant along the beaches. A catch of three or four keepers must be considered a good catch for a shore fisherman. That does not mean that you cannot hit it big some day, just that it has been unusual. Most of the fluke fishermen that I spoke to on the beaches of Fire Island Inlet last year were "satisfied" with one or two keepers. As everyone knows, boat fishing is a different game, but it is not always practical or convenient.

For some reason, the first flurry of action in recent years has seemed to be centered just west of the northern end of the Robert Moses Bridge. For two years, you could tell when the fish were in by noting the fleet of boats of all sizes drifting this area. If you slowed your car and looked closer, you would also see a picket line of anglers out in the water on the north side of the inlet. Most of them were wearing waders, but there were always a few bare-legged "polar bears" suffering the cool waters of spring in the hopes of catching their first fluke of the season.

Access to this area is not difficult, but it does require some walking. You can park at the Captree overlook and walk down to the beach. Then you head west till you pass the base of the bridge and look for a place in the line of fishermen out on the bar. But before you do this, you had better stop for bait and make some preparations.

Bait is available at the Captree Bait Station, or from one of the many tackle stores on Montauk Highway. Sand eels were really good last spring, but live killies, and cut bait also have their following. If you like killies, get a plastic killy car, which you can tie to your belt with a short rope. I would recommend a small styrofoam cooler with ice cubes in it to keep any dead bait in good condition. There are some really small coolers that are made for bait which can also be tied to your belt. Bait that has softened in the sun is not very effective, except to feed the crabs. The spring sunshine can ruin bait in a very short time.

Tackle should be heavy enough to cast a moderate distance. We prefer light spinning tackle and small hooks and sinkers. The early fish are mostly small and include a lot of shorts. A #1 hook is plenty big, and we prefer the regular shank instead of the long shank. One ounce of lead is adequate, if you are casting and retrieving dead bait or cut bait. If you want to anchor a live killie, you will have to experiment because the tidal current varies tremendously with the stage of the tide. My recommendation would be the #1 hook on a two-foot leader with a one ounce sinker. Hook the sand eel once through the head and toss it out gently. When it hits bottom, move it with the rod, and then stop and reel in your slack. Repeat this until you retrieve the rig or get a bite.

Recognizing a fluke bite is very often impossible. It is not usual for a fluke to grab and run—although they do it occasionally. Most of the time, you just feel a stop or a slight drag. Treat each of these as a bite, and slack off on your line immediately. I don't know if fluke are getting smarter, but those in Fire Island Inlet last year seemed much harder to hook. They would grab the bait, but let it go if anything wasn't right. This is where patience, small hooks, and a light sinker will pay off. Very often, your bite turns out to be a crab or a clump of weed. Nonetheless, you must treat each stop as a fish, or you won't catch many fluke.

There has been a lot written about double hook stinger rigs for fluke.

Jean nets a small fluke and begins walking towards the beach.

They may work very well for boat fishermen, but they do not seem to produce well for casters in this area. I don't believe that the hook you use is as important as good, fresh bait, but it is probably the second most important factor in getting bites. A light small hook will allow a bait to swing in the current more naturally instead of looking like it is anchored.

Fluke are notorious for throwing the hook at the final moment, so it is a good idea to have a net for that time. A trout net with a rubber stretch cord to hang over your shoulder will do the job for average sized fish. If you want to be ready for the possible large one, a short-handled boat net can be rigged to hang from your belt, or you can slip its handle into a long-shanked sand spike that is in the water with you. The other alternative is to wade back to the shore and beach your fish.

Keeping your fish in good condition is easy because you can string them and tie the stringer to your belt, leaving the fish alive and in the water. It is also possible to tie your stringer to a sand spike.

Weeds are the number one fishing problem in this area. You are most likely to find some days when the water is clear during the early season. On other days, fishing is just about impossible except on slack tide. Because the current flows here for about three hours after the time for high or low water, your slack water will come at about mid-tide. Fishing may be good on any tide, but I prefer the incoming flow here, because it makes a nice rip as it runs over the sand bar. Incoming current begins halfway between the time for low water and the time for high water. The tide continues to run in long after the level of the water is falling. You will have to observe this to believe it, and it varies a bit with wind direction or strength.

Along with the fluke in May, the same baits may produce sea robins, and occasional sea bass, weakfish, and even small bluefish. You can't count on anything in fishing, but if you want to catch an early fluke from shore, try the sand bar at Robert Moses Bridge.

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PORT JEFFERSON SNOWSHOES

by Ron Onorato

If there has been one thing that I learned about Long Island Sound the past few springs, is that there are an awful lot of big flounders swimming around up there. Take last spring for example: flounder fishing was down throughout much of its range on the Island. Gardiner's Bay produced some nice catches for some knowing fishermen, but for the most part, the fishing could be rated as fair, at best. However, once again, the north shore flounders put on a very nice show for a handful of flounder fishermen who took advantage of the situation. For the past several years now, Port Jefferson and related areas have had some fair to middlin' flounder fishing, with some of the fish being "Gardiner's Bay" quality.

Much of the Sound iced over after last winter's deep freeze, and many of us wondered what this would do to the flounder fishing. As we were to find out after the first few trips, the ice and cold water merely delayed the start of the flounder for a couple of days. Usually, the first big flounders show up on Port Jefferson's Mount Misery Shoals around the first week of April. The good catching picks up around the middle of the month, and it peaks during the last week of April and the first week of May. Last year, the flounders first made their appearance around the middle of April, and provided good fishing for a couple of weeks. As usual, the fish were big, and fairly plentiful. The fish averaged about a pound, with more than enough two pound fish to go around, and catches ran from ten or twelve fish on a bad day, to twenty-five or thirty fish on the better days, and there were far more better days than poor days.

The scene of all this hot fishing is Mount Misery Shoals, located at the mouth of Port Jefferson. The shoal is an interesting piece of bottom, and hosts a large variety of fish during the season, but it is the big flounders that give this place its fame. The shoal is a hard piece of bottom that rises up from sixty to eighty feet of water, to various depths around ten to twelve feet. Buoy 11 marks the edge of the shoal. This is quite a sharp dropoff, and the flounders line up at different spots on the shoal to feed, depending upon the tidal stage. This is the key to getting your share of the flounders off the shoal—finding where the fish feed at varying stages of the tide. This point was driven home many times last April. We would anchor up on our spot and we would take flounders for about an hour, and then the fishing would fall off to almost nothing. The first thought was that the chum pot ran out, or that the tide was slowing down. But as we found out, the fish simply vacated the spot where they had been, and moved to their next feeding spot. No matter how much we chummed or pounded the bottom, the fish just wouldn't stay put. As soon as we moved the boat to another piece on the reef, the flounders would resume their heavy feeding until they got the urge to move to their next piece of ground on the reef.

I have always found fishing for these big flounders very intriguing and exciting. First off, the fish are big and cagey, and they aren't as careless as their smaller brothers when it comes to taking a baited hook. The fish are never really very plentiful, so going after the big ones is really a matter of paying attention to specific details, and precise placement of your boat on Mount Misery Shoals, and other related areas. On the average April weekend, there will be anywhere from fifty to one hundred boats anchored at different spots on the shoal. Of these boats, perhaps eighty of them will not take a single flounder, and of the remaining twenty, only eight or nine will have any consistent action with the big flounders. The boats that fail to take fish will blame it on such things as no fish being around, and that the newspapers and magazines are full of lies, etc. Really, their failure is a direct result of not paying attention to bottom structure, depth, and tide stages. The first trip to any new spot usually is not the best, but you should use it as a barometer and guide for future trips. Look around, try new spots, and watch those people who are catching fish, and take ranges on the productive spots, and note the tide stage, so that way you'll be prepared for the next trip.

You'll be fishing for these flounders in a manner very similar to that which you would for the common bay flounder, with a few exceptions. The current runs at a pretty fair clip up here, and you've got to do a big job with the chum pot to have even marginal success with the fish. While in some of the south shore bays, the flounders may be spread over a wide area of the bay, up here the fish are fairly concentrated into small patches of fish, located at various spots on the reef.

The very first thing you'll have to do is make sure that you are on the shoal itself. Directly northeast from the mouth of Port Jefferson Harbor lies Buoy 11, and this marks the general vicinity of the shoal at its

northern-most point. A few hundred feet north of the buoy, the water drops from twenty feet to over eighty feet in just a matter of a few feet. A few hundred feet east-southeast of the buoy, the water slips gradually from twenty-five feet to fifty feet over the course of a couple of hundred yards. The area between the buoy, and the shore line marks the actual reef itself, and the water will vary in depth from ten to fifteen feet in depth.

The favored tide for fishing the shoal is the ebb tide. The flounders set up shop on the edges of the reef, and wait there for the dropping tide to carry food to them. Regardless of what craft you're going to be fishing from, you **must** have some sort of depth recorder. Even a flasher will help you get along. At the early stages of the ebbing tide, the flounders usually congregate at the far eastern portion of the reef. The water here runs from twenty-five feet to about forty feet with a fairly gradual slope. Pick a spot in about thirty-two to thirty-five feet of water and get the chum pot going. You may have to make a couple of moves around this general area, but try to stay within the thirty to thirty-five foot depth range. Another thing to look for is a hard, but not rocky, bottom. Some of the higher spots of the shoals have a rocky bottom, and these areas should be avoided. You can feel a rocky bottom right away when your sinker bangs off them, and seldom will you find flounders in a rocky area. Rather, most of the bigger flounders lurk at the edge of the shoal, where the rocks end, and the sandy bottom starts. While the south shore flounders favor that fairly soft mud, the flounders up here are usually found on a hard sand bottom. If you anchor your boat any deeper than forty feet of water, you're probably too far away from the shoal to have any appreciable action, although you may take some fish when they are particularly heavy.

Sometimes the fish will bite in this area throughout the entire tide, and you can sit on the one spot for the whole tide. Usually, the fish hit well only for the first hour or so of the tide, and then taper off. Now is the time you're going to have to move closer to the shoal itself. You've been fishing in water around thirty feet deep, so you're going to have to move a little closer to Buoy 11. Now you're going to be looking for water fifteen to eighteen feet deep, which puts you darn near the top of the shoal itself. By now you're probably wondering how important placing your boat actually is. It cannot be emphasized enough how important this is. Walter Yackel is perhaps one of the finest flounder fishermen up around the Port Jefferson area, and I have had the pleasure to fish with him on more than one occasion. He knows the area very well, and he will re-anchor a boat as many as seven or eight times before he is satisfied. It is a lot of work, but up here, everything is a matter of inches; even ten or fifteen feet can make a difference in some spots. Remember, you're going after big fish, and they are much more selective in their feeding habits than the smaller fish. Okay, back to business now. The reason why the flounders move closer to the shoal is based mainly on the way the current runs up there. Before the tide starts moving, the fish are spread out along various spots of the shoal, usually along the far reaches. The fish tighten up as soon as the tide starts to move, but the food supply that is carried from the reef gets scattered by the time it reaches the flounders, so the fish move closer and closer to the reef as the tide picks up, and they get a crack at the tidbits as soon as they are swept off the shoal. Seldom, if ever, are flounders found right up on the reef itself—but again, just at the very edge. As soon as the tide slows down, the fish move further away from the reef and back into deeper water. Not quite as easy as you thought flounder fishing was, but if you want to catch—you have to work. Let's face it—the days of wine and roses are over, no matter where you fish. You can soak sand worms all day long, but unless you put in the effort, you can't complain. For whatever reason, the flood tide only occasionally produces. Usually, the flounder boats go mackerel fishing on the flood and get set up for flounder fishing on the ebb tide.

Okay, now that we've spent the greater part of the article dealing on where to fish for the jumbo flatties, let's take a look at some of the other odds and ends that will carry you through. Basically, this type of flounder fishing is no different than any other type of flounder fishing except that the fish run a little bigger. Actually, you can get by with the same tackle you use for any other type of flounder fishing, except perhaps you will have to use sinkers a little heavier than the ones you use on the south shore.

As far as chumming goes, that has been discussed at lengths in past articles, so there is no need to repeat the whole business. Suffice it to say, that the type of chumming you do will determine how many flounders you'll catch.

The bait department deserves a word or two, because it is a little different than most other areas. There are two choice baits up here, and it is hard to say which one is the better bet. For the longest time, the sand worm was the preferred bait for flounders anywhere along the north shore. Of late, red and yellow dyed skimmer clams, as well as fresh mussels, have moved up the line. For all around productivity, though, fresh sand worms still seem to be the ticket. You just rig a pair of #6 or #8 flounder hooks in tandem, and you're all set to go.

Fortunately, there are facilities available to both the trailer boatman, and the outboard-toting fisherman, so no one gets left out in the cold. The Port Jefferson Harbor ramp is open to non-resident boat owners before Memorial Day, and it is a fine ramp indeed. For those non-boat owners, Caraftis Livery Station has a large complement of skiffs which can be rented for the day's fishing, and he carries all bait in season that you'll need for the flounder fishing.

As mentioned earlier, things get rolling around the beginning of April and can be rated as steady from that point throughout the month of May. Usually, the big flounders make their first appearance around the same time that the mackerel show up, so it seems that they both favor similar water temperatures. When you start running into large quantities of sea robins, you can pretty well wrap up the flounder season. One final comment about fishing this area. Try to avoid fishing around the full moon periods. The tide is a little steep up here as it is, and around the full moon, the tide really roars, and this throws the whole thing out of whack for a couple of days. Also, avoid fishing on days when the wind blows from the east, as this also adversely affects the fishing.

You can use conventional outfits for the big flounder or spinning outfits—both types of tackle will work well on the North Shore.

The Underwater Eye

by Dick Mermon

Electronic fishing equipment has resurrected a new era, not only in the art of largemouth bassin', but in fishing in general. New battery-operated items arrive on the scene each year. One of the finest brought out, an asset to game fishing people everywhere, is a unit called the depth-fish finder.

This mini-sonar not only reads the depth of the water, the type of bottom, and what is on the bottom, but records and locates fish suspended off the bottom in their exact depths.

Sonar—mother of all depth finders—was developed during World War II for navigation. Later, it was found that obstacles suspended off the bottom could be tracked also, in the same way that radar tracks objects in the air. Anything that floated between the sending signal and the bottom was recorded on a screen.

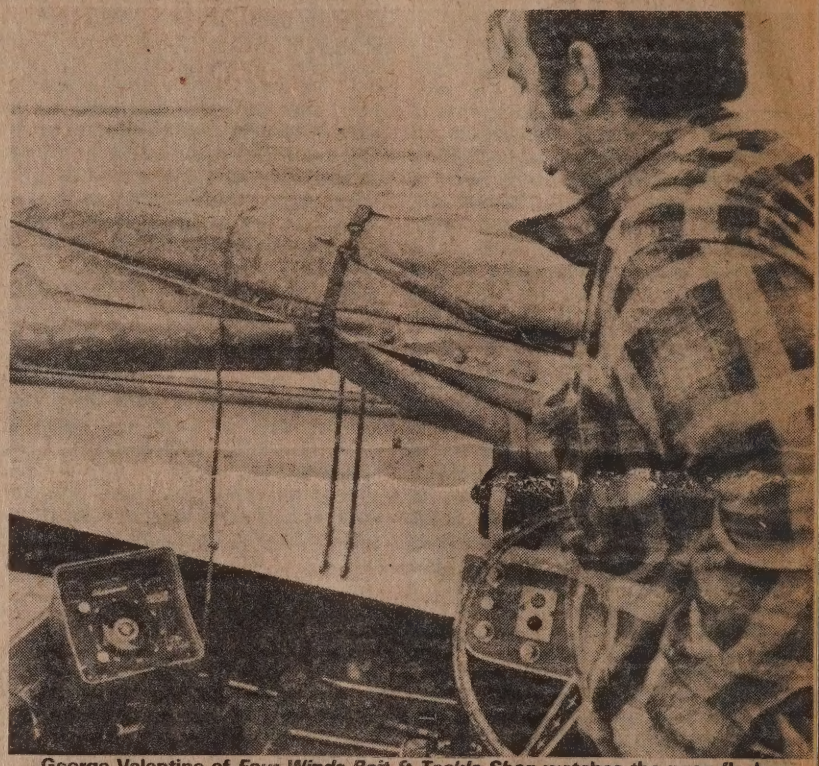
When war ended, commercial shipping acquired units to record channels and open new areas that were never charted before. Then came the day for the fishermen. Units were manufactured for the small craft of the saltwater and big lakes. These were strictly depth finders for navigation and location of wrecks, holes, shelves, and reefs. Wrecks of old ships and reefs were actually painted onto the dial of the indicator.

At first, the impulses transmitted by these units were not as sensitive as they are today and they recorded only bottom. Presently, these machines are very similar in construction to high quality units used on naval vessels, like modern radar and sonar.

Many quality units are within reach of the average pocketbook. They boast qualities which include being very compact, portable, with dial indicators which will read all types of bottom and indicate fish at their depths.

If you can turn the dial switch on, this machine will do the rest for you. But does the average layman really know what happens at that point? What really makes this instrument tick? I mean, do you know what happens beyond the turning of the "**On—Off**" dial? Let's look into the operation of this special tool a little closer.

Once the switch is activated (turned on), it pulls electricity from the battery it is attached to and transmits a pulse of sound energy into the water. This is converted electric energy from the battery or electrical source. The sound pulse put out by the transducer travels in a straight line until it reflects off some object or the bottom, returning as an echo of the same sound energy. This sound energy is picked up by the transducer and converted back into electrical energy.



George Valentine of *Four Winds Bait & Tackle Shop* watches the neon flashes on the depth recorder to find the proper area before releasing the anchor.

Sound travels at a velocity of about 4800 feet per second in water. It moves to an object 2400 feet away and back again in one second. Every time the indicator arm revolves past the zero mark, the electric pulse is put out by the transmitter. This pulse, at the same time, is applied to the indicator of the machine and appears as zero flash, recorder mark or surface mark indicator. It is also applied simultaneously to the transducer, where it changes the electrical pulse to a sound pressure wave, transmitted into the water towards the bottom, or in the direction the transducer is pointing. Sometimes fishermen will deliberately point or mount the transducer at a forty-five degree angle. Then they will face the boat in that direction and read on the dial, "fish concentration." This works perfectly with graph paper recorders, as they mark single fish on a structure.

Getting back to the sound wave that was transmitted, it is of high frequency, traveling downward or outward in the form of a cone, about twenty-two degrees, until it reflects off the bottom or some other object between the transducer and the bottom. It returns as an echo sound pressure wave, picked up by the transducer and converted back to electrical energy. A receiver amplifies it and it appears on the indicator as a **Red** flash or a **Mark** on a graph recorder.

The indicator arm that has been revolving at a fixed speed (different speeds with different machines) acts as a timing device and measures the elapsed time between the transmitted signal and the returned one. The scale on the machine is calibrated in feet rather than in time. Paper recorders with sensitized paper to receive the markings are calibrated with footage lines. Each are lined for specific depths.

One big question comes to mind. Do these dial flash recorders actually mark fish? You bet they do, and if you don't believe me, take a look at the intricate electronic equipment many

(Continued on page 34.)

THE CHAIN PICKEREL

BY FRED GUARDINEER

THE CHAIN PICKEREL IS THE ONE MEMBER OF THE PREDATORY PIKE FAMILY FOUND IN THE STREAMS AND PONDS OF THE NORTHEAST CLOSE TO THE SEASHORE AND CAN BE CAUGHT ON LIVE KILLIES AND A VARIETY OF LURES. THIS SURPRISINGLY HARD FIGHTER IS NEVER ONE TO PASS UP AN EASY MEAL AND WILL POUNCE ON FROGS, CRAWFISH, MICE, BIRDS AND FISH UP TO HALF ITS SIZE. HE IS SULKY, SOLITARY AND WAITS IN AMBUSH IN WEED BEDS.

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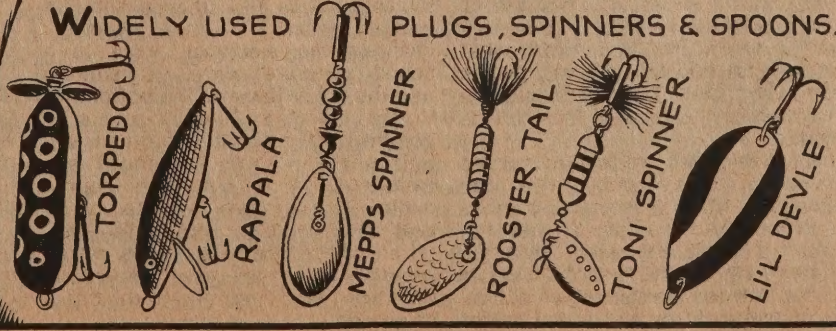

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The COMPASS Navigation Instrument #1

by Jens Jacobs

The actual process of adjusting a compass properly is, of course, somewhat involved and goes far beyond a few short articles of this kind. In fact, it would require writing a book. One such book is in existence and is known as HO No. 226. It is, however, like many other books dealing with a specialized subject written in a form, utterly confusing to most readers.

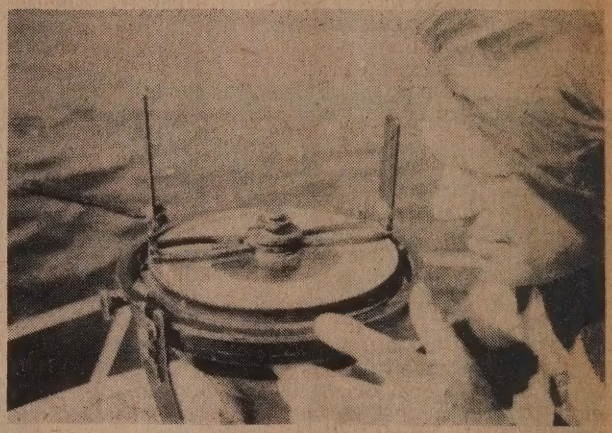
So, what is the boat owner to do who wants an accurate compass, but wants to avoid the cost of services of a professional compass adjustor? First of all, it should be realized that unless the job is properly done with a large pelorus and Azimuth of the sun or other celestial body if possible, results will be doubtful and errors from 5° to 10° can go undetected.

Some of the following are common procedures by small craft skippers, and you may be able to detect larger errors, but these procedures will not yield information accurate enough to make up a deviation card which is of much value.

Following another boat and compare compass readings; lay alongside another boat; run between two buoys or other charted objects having a known course between them; run down a channel, or assume that the sun always rises in the east and sets exactly in the west. Although not suitable for adjusting a compass, these procedures have their uses, and that is to detect large errors. Another misconception is that if as long as the error is known—regardless of how much it may be—you simply apply the correction and all is well. That is not so. If there is a disturbing magnetic field acting upon the compass and causes an error of 15° or more, there will be sections of erratic and sluggish compass action. The reason for this is that the earth's magnetic field is weakened on some headings and strenghtened on others, and in extreme cases may be completely cancelled out by the disturbing field, locking the compass on one heading. The only remedy in a case like this is to relocate the offending piece of gear, or relocate the compass. Placing deck magnets in the proper location about the compass is another possibility in some cases, but a far better choice is to remove the culprit.

In any case, to adjust the compass properly, the boat must be brought on North or South as accurately as possible. If the compass does not read North, it should be made to read North, with the North/South adjusting screw located on the side of the compass—if so equipped. Now the boat should be brought on South magnetic, and if everything was done right, the compass should read South without any further adjustments. If it does not, there are several possible reasons for this: mis-alignment of the compass with the keel line of the boat; the directional reference used is in error; mis-alignment of the pelorus; the compass itself may be faulty, or a combination of all of these. The next step, of course, would be to isolate and correct the problem and start all over again, repeating the process on East and West magnetic, as well as checking on the intercardinal headings 045°, 135°, 225°, and 315°. If no deviation is found to be on any of these headings, you can assume there will be no deviation on any heading. If by chance you own a steel boat, the problems become far more complex. Not only is a special compass required, the entire process of adjusting is more involved, and the services of a compass adjustor are in order.

What if you decide to hire a compass adjustor, what should his services consist of? How can you be sure you don't get ripped off by a con man putting on an act?



1. If he uses another compass as a reference compass to adjust yours, you know you are not dealing with a pro; therefore, don't let him do the job.
2. He should inspect your compass and report his findings to you. If fault is found with your compass, he should make recommendations to remedy the situation.
3. A survey of all electrical and electronic equipment must be made to see if activating them will cause the compass to respond.
4. A pelorus should be used in conjunction with Azimuth of sun, or other celestial body to establish compass error.
5. Correct or eliminate compass error and record any remaining deviation on a detailed deviation table.
6. You may want to check with friends or others who may know about his reputation in general.

So much for compass adjusting. Let's see now, what a lot of you boat owners will discover as soon as the winter cover comes off the boat.

Your compass has a big air bubble in it—what happened? Obviously, it leaked. But why did it leak? As we all know, when things get cold, they contract—and compass fluid is no exception. If your compass is one of those which I like to refer to as substandard, the entire compass is made out of plastic—including the expansion chamber—and when the fluid contracts beyond the flexing ability of the expansion chamber, a vacuum will form. If the plastic is not strong enough to withstand the outside atmospheric pressure, the plastic will crack and air will enter to form a bubble. In this case, the compass cannot be repaired and, therefore, will have to be discarded.

If the compass is repairable—such as a Danforth or Ritchie—it is a simple matter of getting it to the factory or authorized repair station, with the latter a better choice, for it is likely you will get faster service. In fact, it is not very likely that a bubble will form on a Ritchie over the winter due to the fact that they use extremely reliable phosphore bronze expansion chambers, as opposed to plastic, or neoprene, which may harden under extreme low temperatures. On the other side of the coin, extreme heat should be guarded against, as this will cause expansion of the compass fluid, exerting internal pressure in the compass, which in the case of plastic may rupture and all the fluid may leak out in a few seconds—a most unwelcome situation when it happens fifty miles offshore.

Once more, quality is the key word. This is not to say that a quality compass may be abused. A little care will go a long way in keeping your compass together. In winter, if you lay the boat up for a few months, remove the compass from the boat and store it at home at some reasonable temperature. In summer—especially if your boat is docked at a heading between 135 and 225—try to avoid letting the sun beat on the compass: cover it up. One of the most effective compass covers is a plain piece of aluminum foil wrapped over it. If the surrounding surface on which the compass is mounted is black and behind a windshield, you should throw a white cloth (such as a towel) over the entire area. To a great extent this will reduce heat, and as a result, the compass will not be exposed to such extremes.

There are, of course, many more and different aspects to compass installations, but it is beyond the scope of this article to cover every possible installation and application in depth. The purpose of this article was to make you, the boat owner who uses and needs a compass, aware of some of the facts.

In brief, let's review some of these facts:

1. It's difficult, if not impossible, to operate a boat (or ship) safely without an accurate and dependable compass.
2. A compass, in order to perform, must be selected to match the boat itself, and the use of the boat.
3. A quality compass will out-perform, outlast, and therefore, be less expensive than the lowest quality.
4. Most boats sold equipped with a compass, are equipped with one of substandard quality, not the proper size, and not the proper model.
5. The average boat owner purchases four compasses before realizing he has spent a great deal of money for them and still does not have what he needs.
6. The least expensive way out (and the surest way) is to contact a person who is thoroughly and completely familiar with the entire subject of compasses and heed his (or her) advice.

There is no doubt that this article will draw some flack, but the intent of this article was to get you—the boat owners—on the right course for this season. In some little way, I hope it has made a contribution to a better understanding of compasses, and a safer season of boating and fishing.

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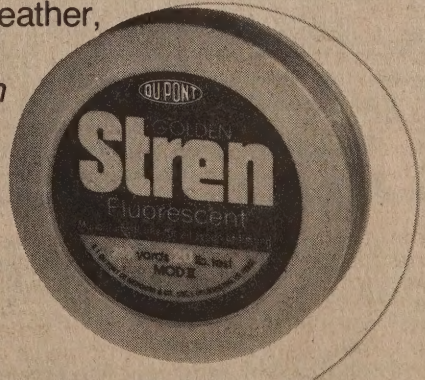

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CODFISH

Captain Richard Rade of the **Marlin IV** reported that the high winds during midweek seem to have riled up the water, and as a result the fishing was only fair on Friday. There was still a big heave on for the weekend, but the cod action south of Block Island started to get itself together again and about 250 fish were taken for the two days. Before the storm scattered the fish, the fishing was fantastic. Last Sunday 50 men fishing aboard the boat accounted for 300 cod ranging from 5 to 15 lbs. The captain also noted that the first mackerel have started to show in the area, and the boat scored with its first snowshoe flounder of the season on Saturday—a huge six pounder.

Captain John Sweetman of the charterboat **Ebb Tide** confirmed the down-turn in the Block Island action Friday, but said that the boats had a good shot at the fish for about an hour Saturday morning. The captain worked the boat towards Block Island Saturday, stopping en route to pick fish at various bottom formations along the way. This extra effort accounted for almost 30 cod for the charter aboard.

Capt. Dick Vigilant of the charter boat **Triton II** reported that the cod fishing was really down on Thursday and Friday as a result of the high winds, but the captain aboard bailed out the day with a mess of snowshoe flounders in the 1½k to 3 lb. range the charter caught at a "secret" spot around Block Island. Saturday's cod-fishing wasn't all that good either, with anglers aboard taking 5 to 10 a man in addition to snowshoe flounders. Sunday's fishing showed a slight improvement in the codfishing, a sign that the fish are beginning to regroup to get ready for the spring onslaught. No signs of pollock as of yet, but mackerel are in the area.

Capt. John DeMaio of the charter boat **Vivienne** said that he made his maiden voyage on Friday to get in on the disastrous fishing south of Block Island. Action picked up on Saturday, with a hot hour of fishing that produced two dozen cod, but if you missed this spurt, you had to pick at the fish for a decent score. Another two dozen cod were bagged on Sunday, all on DeMaio jigs. John said that the fish are feeding on sand eels and wouldn't look at bait.

Captain Warren Hader called to say that the **Devilfish** is now back in the water after being re-fitted with some new electronic gear and will be making its maiden voyage on Saturday, but he has an open date on Sunday. Warren said that he still has a few openings for day-and-a-half Special Block Island trips, but call soon for preferred dates.

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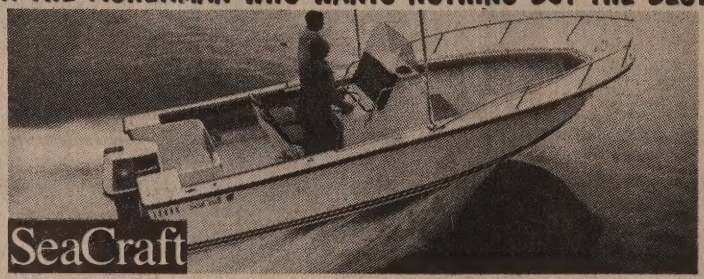

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Shown at right is Luke Cooper with his 56 lb. codfish that took the $1,016 pool aboard the "Viking Starship" on the April 17 Nantucket wreck trip. Also pictured are Gary Castle and Tony LoPerfido with their 2nd and 3rd place cod of 52 and 29 lbs., respectively.

Here is Kenneth Tjelta and Terence Bingham with their catch of 21 cod, including the pool fish of 31 lbs., taken aboard the "Marlin IV" out of Montauk.

Gone Fishin Marina tells us that on Sunday Jerry Manfredi, Hank Stroh, Allan Swartout fished Gin Beach just east of the jetties to bag 45 snowshoes running three plus pounds on clam baits. On Sunday also, Lou Havel and Bob Kall fished Cartwright to the tune of 35 cod running up to 35 lbs. on clam. Their rental fleet is getting flounder in Lake Montauk in the 1½ lb. category, 20 to 30 fish per boat on bloodworms and clam.

Charter boat **Julie III** called to tell us that Lou Medeod and party on Sunday bagged 65 cod from 4 to 10 lbs., on clam in the Frisbee area. No pollock.

Charter Boat **Free Spirit** called and asked us to tell our readers that he is now in the water ready for your spring cod and pollock charters. Capt. Frank says be sure to book early for those shark trips, too.

The Viking Skipper II reports Monday and Tuesday was fantabulous on the cod, as was Friday after the storm. Twelve men took 60 cod on that day. By Sunday, the heat was gone and the day was made by 11 AM., all hands bagging up. This was off Block Island on bait and also on diamond jigs.

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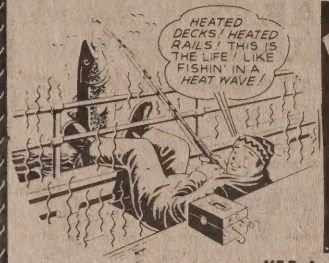

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★ LARGE CHARTERS ALSO AVAIL.
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PECONICS & GARDINERS

★ BEST BET ★

FLOUNDER

GREENPORT

The Wilheric reported decent flounder fishing last week around the Spindle at Sag Harbor, South Ferry and some fish at Cedar Beach. Pool fish are going 1½ to 2½ lbs. High hooks are going 15 to 20 fish per trip. Sunday's high hook had 22.

A. P. White Bait Shop reported some good flounder fishing last week around places like Crab Creek, Deering Harbor and the Bug Light off Long Beach.

SOUTHOLD

Port of Egypt reported some very good flounder fishing over the weekend. Last Saturday there was a catch of 42 flounders made on the west side of Jessup's Neck. On Sunday, this spot wasn't too good because of the wind. However, the water off the Oyster Factory and the Old Windmill produced a catch of 75 flats up to 2 lbs. for Walter Mackelberg. There is also some good fishing around South Ferry. The mackerel have put in their appearance. They are hitting mackerel trees around the Greenport Breakwater and off buoy 17 at Jessups.

NEW SUFFOLK

Capt. Marty's Fishing Station reports flounder up to 2¾ lbs. are being taken in the south race and at Nassau Point on mussel and worms. Dom DeRaneri and Gasper Peri took 51 flounder on mussel and worms fishing at Nassau Point between Buoy 22 and Sand Slide. Nat Costanza fished the same area and took 45 flounder. One party that went out to Nassau Point had some mackerel mixed in with their flounder catch.

AQUEBOGUE

Warren's Tackle Center reported

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31 FT. FIBERGLASS SPORTFISHERMAN

SAILING DAILY BY RESV. **ELJON** *SPLIT CHARTERS AVAIL.*

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Bait & Tackle Supplied—*Westlake Fishing Lodge*

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★ ALL ELECTRONICS ★

INSHORE • OFFSHORE

SPRING COD

POLLACK

FLOUNDER SHARK

CAPT. GARY KIEFFER

CAPT. BRUCE KIEFFER

CAPT. DOC GRELL

(Holder of 2 World's Records)

Six Pass. Lmt.

(516) (516) 968-8969

Frank Alba, Randy Alba, Bill Schmidt and Eddie Straber caught these 80 flounder up to 2 lbs., fishing Buoy 25 in the South Race on mussels and worms. Photo courtesy of Capt. Marty's Fishing Station.

some decent flounder fishing around buoys 4, 8 and 9. There's mackerel around, but as of this report all the action is out toward Greenport.

NOYAC

Noyac Marina reports good flounder fishing Saturday. Bill and Sherry Gutwein of Westchester fished off the Monastery for two hours with sandworms and mussel chum, for a total of 20 flounders, all 1½ to 2¾ lbs. Roger Sherman of Farmingdale, amongst his 15 fish on Saturday, had a 2¾ pounder. Helen says that all boats returned with fish.

EAST HAMPTON

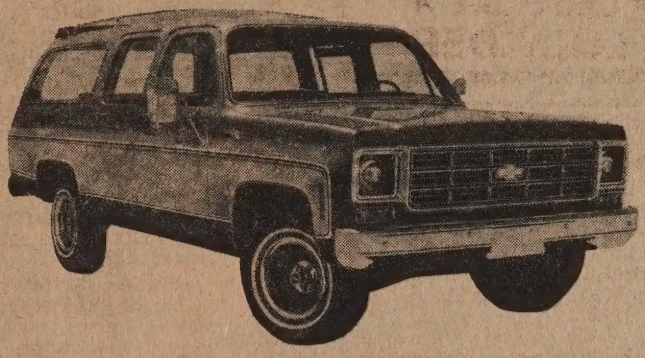
Three Mile Harbor Fishing Station reports that on Friday, Carl Vogt of Richmond Hill and Bill Kolhenbush of Middle Village and Al Werner of Rego Park had 50 flounder up to 2 lbs. Best was both sides of the high, with worms and heavy mussel chumming. This was on Friday. On Saturday, some skiffs had 60 and 70 fish going to 2 lbs., right in the harbor.

SOUTH FORK
★ BEST BET ★
FLOUNDER

SHINNECOCK

The Capt. Clark Fleet reports while Saturday's fishing was fair, Sunday's was very good with 20 fares decking over 350 flounder. Ray Challita of Elmhurst, was high hook with 36 fish. Best action was south of buoy 8 off Jamesport in the deeper water. Fish ran from 1 to 1¼ lbs., with mussels on the hook. Monday through Fri-

L.I.'s TOUGHEST
Chevy Truck Dealer!



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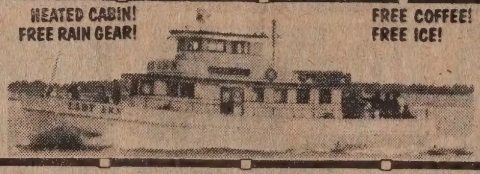

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7AM DAILY 7AM

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Mariner Cuda Fillet Knife
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Sheath Included
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65 FT. **CASEY LEE** 7:45 AM

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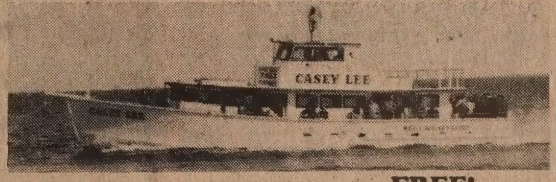
★ TWO GREAT MATES DAILY FOUR ON WEEKENDS!



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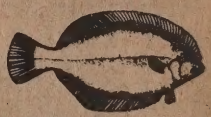

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FLOUNDER
7:30 AM DAILY

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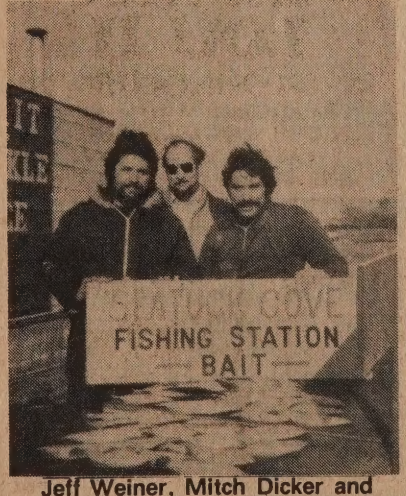

Jeff Weiner, Mitch Dicker and Vinnie Alfi with 38 flounder and 8 tommycod, taken east of the Westhampton Bridge on the end of the incoming tide on sand worms, mussel chum and bottom pounding. Photo courtesy of Seatuck Cove Fishing Station.

Michael Sarowitz and friends with a catch of 59 flounder taken near Buoy 52 on bloodworms and red-dyed clams with plenty of mussel chum. Photo courtesy of Skidmore's Fishing Station.

day's fishing was good, weather permitting. Lots of sand eels and bunker in the water, which is rapidly warming.

HAMPTON BAYS

Corr's Fishing Station informs us that the flounder action has improve in Shinnecock Bay and that Sunday was probably the best day of the week. Joe McKenzie, Ted Lesniak and Bob Gram boated 40 big keepers in just 2 hours of the afternoon flood. Also on Sunday, Rudy and Bob had over 50, 1 to 1½ lbs. All this was in the Cove off Cormorant Point on the flood. All catches were on sand or blood worms and clam chum and any moving tide.

Tony at **Tony's Fishing Station** reported that the flounder fishing was a pick over the weekend. Best action has been around Buoy 17 and also Buoy 26 off the Coast Guard Station on the afternoon incoming tide. Bloodworms or sandworms for bait and chumming with mussels is a must. On Saturday, a woman and two kids bagged 25 big flounder and on Sunday, two youngsters had 40 keepers. Tony said that the quality of the fish is really something to see. Most are in the 1 to 1½ lb. class, with an occasional two pounder being weighed in.

MORICHES BAY

Bill at **East Moriches Bait and Tackle** says that although the weekend was poor in general, Jim Green of North Patchogue managed to bag 12 keepers on Saturday fishing buoy 50, using blood worms with corn and mussel chum. On Sunday, another angler took 14 flounders and 24 tommy cod fishing east of the Westhampton Bridge, with bloodworms plus corn and mussel chum.

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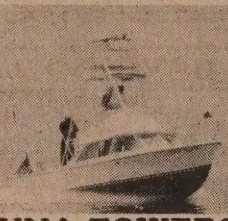

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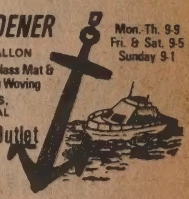

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UNDERWATER EYE

(Continued from page 20.)

of the charter boats of the big waters have.

The straight line or paper recorder has a slight advantage over the dial unit because it marks fish and permanent structure on paper—like a map. One can go back and re-chart the same location again and again for comparison. It also records fish at their depths, making it easy for the fisherman to present the bait into the exact location. On a dial recorder, the flash of fish may be so fast that the eye will not pick it up and the fish will be missed.

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Len and Tony took 7 mackerel fishing in 105 feet of water southeast of the Moriches Sea Buoy.

The flounder fishing has been fair to good whenever the wind isn't blowing too strong, reports out of **Cerullo Brothers Fishing Station** tells us. The fish are big and fat and the hottest action has been at buoy 42. Chumming with mussels is essential to a good catch, and sandworm and clam combo-bait has produced best.

Skidmore's Fishing Station reported very good flounder fishing for big fish that almost all go over the one-pound mark and very few throwbacks. The trick to a good catch is to find a soft, muddy bottom where the fish are stacked up for reasons unknown. Chumming with mussels is still a must. Poor tide conditions held the action down on the weekend, with the hottest action being on incoming water. Dennis Beck of Bay Shore and Jimmy Cattabiani were high hook with 103 flounder taken between them at buoy 43. We were also told that the first mackerel were taken offshore in 120 feet of water.

Al Lassen of the **Hi-Way Fishing Station** reported that while the flounder fishing was slow over the weekend, those that stuck it out and stayed late scored with up to 40 fish around buoy 42. The wind has been the deciding factor in the fishing, but a couple of calm days should see things settle down.

MASTIC BEACH

Gary at **Stiriz Fishing Station** tells us that the moon tides and winds put down the fishing to a large extent this past week, that the waters were all roiled up, but those that caught flounder caught big fish. Large schools of sand eels which are now around should bring in the fluke and weakfish shortly and nice cod are one hour west of the Moriches Inlet off Davis Park up to 40 lbs. on clam. Call Gary for details.

GREAT SOUTH BAY
★ BEST BET ★
FLOUNDER

BAY SHORE

Capt. Walter of the **Casey Lee** reports the flounder fishing was very good till the weekend, with catches of from 7 to 30 fish per man Monday through Friday. Saturday and Sunday were off due to the tides, but the boats still managed approximately 250 flounder Saturday and approximately 150 on Sunday. Walter fished from the Bay Shore flats up to Patchogue and all fish were nice sized, taken on clam and worm on moving water. The boat will begin weakfishing in about a week, so watch the Casey Lee ad closely.

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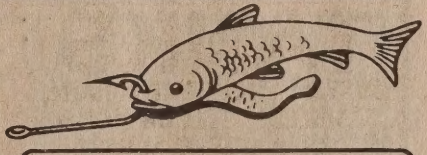

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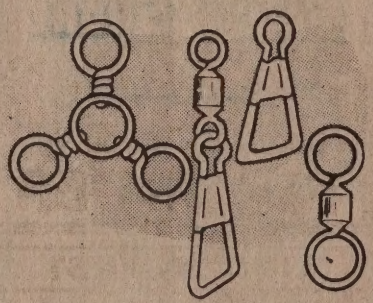

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Smokey's Bait and Tackle reports that John Peters of Brightwaters took 24 flounder up to 2 lbs., on worms and mussel chum on Sunday. North Channel is producing fish up to 2 lbs., average being 10 to 15 fish per boat. Catches have been down due to winds and bad tides. The Heckscher Flats gave up a 3 lb. 2 oz. flattie this week. Scattered mackerel reports on the outside, roughly 30 to 35 fish per boat, all west of the inlet in 16 feet of water and out. NOW HEAR THIS: two weakfish taken on Salty Dogs off Ocean Beach on Sunday.

SAYVILLE

Young's Fishing Station reports good catches of flounder off Barrett Beach in four to ten feet of water on clam and worms and mussel baits and mussel and corn chum. Middle Grounds off the station and Heckscher are also producing. Mike Andreycsk, Dan Dorelli and Joe Zwick had 80 plus fish, with 20 being over 2 lbs. on Saturday. Fishing 1½ miles off Barrett Beach, due south of the station. Jim and Bob Sweedner fishing 2 days midweek, took over 50 good keepers. Your best bet is to fish Monday through Saturday down-current of the clammers as the flounders are zeroing in on them as they stir up the bottom with their tongs.

WEST SAYVILLE

Jim at **South Bay Fishing Station** reports a fair week of flounder activity with sizes good, even though numbers are down. The fish are getting fatter and they are now being caught closer to the Fire Island inlet areas, particularly around buoy 17. Jim and his Dad wished to thank Dennis, Vito and Marty, from whom they have purchased the station for all of their advice and assistance.

CAPTREE

Capt. Neil of the **Lady Ann** reports though flounder fishing was off Friday, Saturday and Sunday due to the extremely high tides which were two feet above normal, and brought in extra cold ocean water onto the flats, and making the fish sluggish, but things should get hot again right after this full moon. The boat still managed 75 to 200 fish per trip. Areas fished are from Bay Shore to Patchogue and these are all larger fish now. Clam and worm on the hooks and moving water are the ticket.

Capt. Charlie Kennedy of the **Capt. Joseph** called via the marine operator on Monday morning to report that the weekend being slow due to the wind and tide still enabled his passengers to get approximately 250 flounders on Saturday and roughly 200 on Sunday, about three to five fish per person. On Monday, though, Charlie said that he had over 100 fish by the time he was calling which was 10:30 a.m. He told us that the **Jib Fleet** was fishing the

Mark Ford, Tom Ford and Todd Julius from the Cherry Lane Fishing Club with part of their catch of flounder taken aboard the "Lady Ann," out of Captree.

same area and also picking away nicely at the flatties. This was in the area of F.I.Inlet.

Charter boat Capt. Leo D called to tell us he had a good Sunday fishing the head buoy (Buoy 7) at the Babylon Cut. 25 fares took approximately 250 flounder on clam and worm baits. It looks as if the fish are moving now and the fishing was strong until the wind blew hard. This was a charter for the McKinley Lodge.

The Speedy VI reports that their tilefishing trip of April 17 saw 152 tile come over the rail, a very successful trip indeed. Capt. Speedy Hubert fished 20 miles east of the Canyon in 600 feet of water. A dozen of the tile were in the 35 to 40 lb. class. A 50 pounder hung by Larry Schoeneman of Levittown took the pool. A 35 pounder was taken by Dr. Antonowich of Mt. Kisco. A lot of 8 to 10 pounders were boated. The boat's next tile trip is scheduled for May 1, and reservations are required. These trips book very quickly, so act fast. Capt. Hubert is now mackerel fishing 7 AM daily and starting Friday will also be running 4:30 p.m. mackerel trips.

Capt. George Tweedy of the **Captain Scotty** called to say that the flounder fishing was only fair during the windy week, with average catches of 10 to 15 fish a man. Saturday's fishing was tough, with only 6 to 10 fish a man, but the action really picked up again on Sunday with anglers averaging 20 to 30 fish each. The fish are mixed sizes up to 2 lbs., and the best action has been off Sailors Haven. All baits are producing fish, with the best action taking place during outgoing water in the afternoon. George said that he he heard of private boats taking weakfish at Ocean Beach and a few fluke have been taken by flounder fishermen.

Captain Gordon Roman of the **Captree Queen** said that the windstorm during the week seemed to have scattered the fish somewhat, making the fishing a little erratic. The fishing tapered off as a result with catches of 6 to 10 fish a man and the boat had to move around to find the fish. The first catches on the flats north and west of West Fire Island were made on Thursday and Friday, but they weren't there for the weekend. But the fish appear to be moving closer to Captree, making for a shorter ride from the dock.

BABYLON

Augie's Bait and Tackle reports weekend catches of 25 and 36 mackerel for two erstwhile fish hounds fishing the NB area, but couldn't hold the fish even with bunker chum. Yet, the pound nets are full of mackerel and the beach seiners are getting loads of macks. Evidently, the big body hasn't gotten here yet. Flounders are averaging out to around 20 fish per man for those who know what they're doing. Bob and Martha Brady fished buoys 4 and 5 at Snake Hill Channel for a good catch on Sunday on worm and clam baits and mussel chum. Ski says to try inside the Sore Thumb and along the beach in that area because catches are there to be made. Flounders are still here in quantities. No weaks on hook and line that he knows of as yet. Two short bass in the pound nets reported. Best bet for flounders would be the Babylon Flats, off the Hospital and Snake Hill Channel. Both sides of the high work best.

Charlie's Fishing Station reports that all skiffs that made the effort Saturday and Sunday did well on flounder on bloodworms and clam chum fishing the east-west channel just off the pool and Bergen Point, fish from ½ to 1½ lbs. Fish on all moving tides.

SOUTH SHORE BAYS

★ BEST BET ★

FLOUNDER

LINDENHURST

The open boat **Sea Horse** had a very good day Tuesday, low man being 20 flounder. High hook was 45 fish, working Bay Shore's West Channel and just east of the Captree bridge off Brightwater Farms. Clam bait working best, then worms. Good size fish. Friday saw 10-15 flounder per man, same area. Joe Cannizzaro of Massapequa had a 3¼ lb. flounder on Sunday and high hook with 22 other fish from 1/2 lbs. up. Saturday it was 5-10 flounder per man on clam, same area. Same numbers on Sunday, any moving tide.

Charlie's Bait and Tackle tells us there are loads of flounder around of good size, with worms working best,

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hotspots being off Good Sam, Copiague Hole, the Amityville Cut, Babylon Cut and the Lindenhurst launching ramp at the Town Beach. No info on weaks. Lots of bunker around, which is a good sign. Frank Said on Sunday went for mackerel to 130 feet due south of F.I. Inlet and while he caught just a few mackerel, he put down a 100 hook set line and took a total of one, 42 lb. cod.

COPIAGUE

Larry at **Bait and Tackle Unlimited** tells us flounder fishing still going strong, with Heckscher producing, off Good Sam, Copiague Hole and Four Corners on clams and mussel, with worm baits running a poor third.

Jonas Bait and Tackle says the weekend was down to about 5 to 10 flounder per angler from the people that came into his shop. However, if we have some decent weather this week, the catches should rebound.

AMITYVILLE

George Combs Bait and Tackle tells us flounder action has been best at West and Squaw Island, Wansers Cut at the State Channel and the Amityville Cut at the State Channel. Fish are from 1¼ to 1½ lbs., on sand worms and mussel chum, with the change of tide working best. A local gillnetter had six weakfish working along the Gilgo Beach area, along with loads of bunker. The weaks were in the 6 lb. class and the rest of their buddies should be here very shortly. George asked us to tell you that he just got in a load of Indian Scent lures and scents. Loads of sand eels around and should be followed very soon by weaks, macks and fluke.

SEAFORD

Naomi Inn Fishing Station reports best flounder fishing now being done at Massapequa Cove at the top of the tide with sand worms on the hook and mussel chum on his rental skiffs.

Lon Wanser Bait and Tackle reports that there is still good flounder action with best areas this past week being Florence Beach, Squaw Island, West Island, Four Corners and the west side of the drawbridge. Most of the fish are being taken on incoming tide, with clam chum a big help. Sand worms are working in a super way for the flounders. Lon also says that the American Way Tackle flounder corn rig is supposed to be very effective, and recommends giving it a try. Frank Solawater (Polish for saltwater) who works for Wanser's Bait and Tackle, took six tile fish on the Speedy VI's recent tile trip, so if you need any info, give him a call.

MERRICK

Merrick Marine Supply reports that Joe Canter of Tournament Anglers on the Blue Max boated 11 cod in the 20-53 lb. range. This was in 110 feet of water, southeast of Jones Inlet. Bob Reilly had the 53 pounder. Ed Zerret fished on a Montauk party boat over the weekend, and nailed a 42¾ lb. cod plus a 38¾ lb. silver hake, all on bait.

Jimmy at **Nick's Fishing Station** says that though things were a little slower this week, fair to good catches were made by his rental fleet with some people bringing in 42, keepers, 45 keepers from the third pole off his dock, Broad Creek. Your reporter fished Whale Neck Point for one hour Sunday morning on the high slack and bagged three big flounder up to 1¾ lbs., on worms and no chum.

The infamous G. Corn had his first fishing trip of the season on Saturday and managed to lose the Carvel pool by catching the first flounder of the day.

BALDWIN

Arthur Street Marine reports nearly 100 flounders taken by one of their customers in their skiff fishing the outgoing tide in Cinder Creek on Sunday. This was on worms and clam belly chum. Fish were all keepers and the happy anglers were Jim and Pete McInty. The other skiffs were taking anywhere from 5 to 15 fish a trip.

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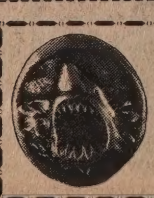

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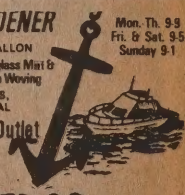

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FREEPORT

Capt. Mike of the **Capt. Lou II** tells us that fishing was spotty this week due to conditions, but that even so, on Saturday Ralph and Janet Ortiz of Roslyn pulled 38 flounder up to 2½ lbs., and also took the pool. Catches averaged 10 to 15 fish per angler and Mike found good fishing at the Inlet on the slack and at the Coast Guard station as well. Mike wishes to thank all of Lou DiBlasio's customers who have continued to stay with the boat and Mike welcomes you all to sail with him.

The charter boat **Shalidon** called to tell us that he hit Manasquan Ridge on Saturday and did all right on mackerel in the early hours of the day and in the afternoon proceeded to load up on 2 lb. whiting.

Capt. Ken Brayshaw of the charter boat **Jackpot** advises that he will be bringing his boat into Woodcleft Canal sailing from behind Otto's Sea Grill. Ken was formerly a mate on the Aloma II, the Captain Al, the Angler II, the Jack Six and the H elAnn.

The **Starstream II** reports a pretty good mackerel trip on Sunday, picky, but to the tune of 15 fish; 3/4 bag per angler. Saturday's trip for macks was in the area of 30-50 macks per person, working Manasquan Ridge. It was a "good weekend of fishing," says Capt. Richie and he anticipates the fish will be moving up to our south shore doorstep by this weekend.

Capt. Sy of the **Bluefin Fleet** called to tell us that the best bet this past week and weekend were Reynolds Channel's buoys 17 and 19 and Garretts Lead. Sunday's pool was taken by Nick Tarmon and his wife Anna came in runner-up with a 1¾ lb. flounder, on the **Blue Fin II**. They were in a group from York Industries. Fast moving water is critical, says Sy.

The **Aloma II** reports Sunday's flounder action was pretty good, fishing Jones Inlet's C.G. Station and the Reynolds Channel area with clam and worm bait. Capt. Schmidt has taken the first fluke of the season on a head boat, as far as we know; a short that was returned to fight another day. But the scouts are here. Now switching over to mackerel, sailing daily at 7 AM.

The **Miss Freeport** had a fair day Monday for flounder at Swift Creek, fishing the north end in the afternoon. Friday got blown away, but Saturday, Capt. Tony had good pickings in Reynolds Channel all day and also went to the Island Park grounds.

Anthony's Fishing Station reports flounder action good with decent weather. His skiffs are averaging 20 fish per boat working high flat drain, Fundy Bay and the Narrows from high flats drain to Woodcleft canal. Worms, clams and mussels are the ticket. One customer had 55 fish, fishing mussels and mussel chum in the channel between HFD and Fundy Bridge. Should be an excellent tide and weekend coming up.

Sea Isle Sports reports buoy 19 in Reynolds Channel and Cinder Creek as good producing areas this past week. Freeport Tuna Club member John McRay had 120 mackerel on his boat Seafarer, fishing with two buddies off Manasquan Ridge. Herring are being caught off the Freeport Town Park at the south end of South Long Beach Avenue. Flounder are being caught there also. Starting May 1, a public fishing pier opens at the foot of South Grove Street, which is now being called Guy Lombardo Marina. This should open up a lot of fishing for entire new groups of people.

Capt. Wayne King called to tell us that his new boat should arrive in approximately 2 months, and in time for the bluefish season. The boat will be the **King Wayne** and will be part of the Freeport Boatmen's Association and sailing from their dock on Woodcleft Canal.

The Freeport Boatmen's Association tells us that the **Acme II, Empire,** and **Atlantic** had decent catches of flounder in the 1¼ lb. category, though action was off this week. This was all in Reynolds Channel and Garret Lead.

POINT LOOKOUT

Ed's Fishing Station reports that flounder are still being taken in North Channel, Middle Bay and Cinder Creek. Bill Ophoff, sons Glenn and Bill and daughter Joan took 80 nice sized flounder up to 1½ lbs., fishing Middle Bay with worms and clams. Best fishing during the moon tides seems to be the incoming. Most boats out of the fishing station are averaging 30 to 40 fish per boat.

Scotty's Marina reports that flounder are being taken in Middle Bay and average catches of 25 to 30 fish per person are being taken. Nyla and Ginny from Pt. Lookout fished Middle Bay and took 84 flounder from 1 to 1½ lbs. on worms, clam and mussel chum. Best fishing is being done on both sides of high tide. Whiting and ling are being taken by boaters in 75 to 100 feet of water south of Jones Inlet.

ISLAND PARK

Beckmann's Tackle reports good flounder fishing over the weekend with fish to 1½ lbs. being taken. Most of the same areas are producing nice sized flatties on w[illegible] and clams.

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NATIONAL SCENE

(Continued from page 9.)

very low. Four-spot flounder are the most abundant by-catch, though fair amounts of fluke and spiny dogfish come aboard. Other species taken in significant amounts include goosefish (angler), butterfish, tilefish, armoured sea robin, spotted hake, silver hake (whiting), red hake (ling), Jonah crab, white hake, and squid (where they aren't the target species). Catches of prohibited species, such as haddock, pollock, sea bass, shad, and weakfish, are very small. The reports are so detailed that even starfish, snails, horseshoe crabs, sea anemones, and sponges are accounted for! Many unusual species show up in minute quantities—how about boarfish, torpedo rays, short big-eye, black belly rosefish, fawn cusk eel, mackerel scad, snipefish, rainbow smelt, blue runner—and a single blowfish and bergall. Most unusual of all though, was a 700 kilogram basking shark!

Fortunately, by-catches of mackerel are low and with no targeted foreign fishery on that species this winter, we may just end up with a good season. Initial reports from Virginia were good. Council member, Mike Keene reported that the mackerel were the biggest in years, averaging one-and-a-half to two pounds. Council Chairman Dave Hart called as this was being written to tell me that Cape May boats were into "old-fashioned" schools that you can drift through for hours. Even though the population levels are low, the lack of a winter fishery may well have left us with the necessary concentrations for good fishing. If that's the case, let's each remember to keep only what we can use!

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MISCELLANEOUS

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The Commodore reports that Saturday's trip saw Tom Olivo and Matt Viola of Valley Stream take 47 good flounder. John Pleicarhart of Lindenhurst bagged 29 flounder plus a 2lb. 2 oz. pool fish. On Sunday, John Trost of the Bronx had 27 flounder. Frank Hurskowitz took a 2 lb. 4 oz. pool fish plus 22 others. Duck Point and Hog Channel were best on the last of the ebb and the beginning of the flood. On Sunday, it was Deb's Inlet on the last of the flood and Reynolds Channel and other back channels on mussel, clam and worms.

Once again, Steve and Joe on the Debora bagged 14 cod from 25 to 45 lbs., on Saturday. They ran to 110 feet of water, 160 degrees out of Jones, on clam baits and heavy clam chumming. They also had a dozen ling and a dozen whiting, but no mackerel. Steve's father Fred Weitzen, took five flounder from the Magnolia Blvd. Pier in Long beach on bloodworms.

ATLANTIC BEACH

Henning's Fishing Station reports excellent flounder fishing. On Saturday, at least three boats came in with catches of over 70 flounder from 1 to 1½ lbs. The hotspot on Saturday was the Cedarhurst Yacht Club and the fish there were taking worms and mussels with chumming a must. Woodmere Channel did better on Sunday with nice catches coming in to the station with the same baits being used. Offshore boats are picking up some cod, fishing off of Fire Island Inlet. Buoy 4 is producing some nice whiting and mackerel.

JAMAICA BAY

Cross Bay Bait and Tackle reports good quantities of flounder being taken at the north and south channel bridges on bloodworms, sand worms and mussel chum. Bass are starting to show at the North Channel bridge. These fish are just over keeper size and are taking worms.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

The Flamingo III tells of mackerel he caught over the weekend, but he had to run down the Jersey coast to get into fish. There was fair action, but no blitz as yet. Catches ran 12 to 25 macks per man. Walter looks for them to become closer very shortly, as the scouts are here locally. They should be here within a week at most.

The **Elsie K III** started mackerel fishing on Sat. and action was good at and south of the Klondike. Sunday was slower, so Capt. Tom went to whiting and ling, which were waiting hungrily at the BA. Tom will stay with the mackerel and back it up with the ling and whiting should the macks become elusive.

Capt. Kevin on the **Dorothy B** says the macks were okay on Saturday and fair on Sunday and that he fished the BA area Sunday afternoon and gave his customers a leap job on the ling and whiting. 80 percent of the catch was ling.

The **Pilot II** reports loads of whiting and ling on the weekend for a super slaughter. Filling two five gallon buckets per angler was typical. Capt. Tommy is now switching over to his super speciality which is blackfish. And he is now after them on a daily basis, sailing 6 AM and will be hitting the local wrecks. He says it looks like a very good blackfish season as some of his pals in private boats have been doing superb.

Stella Maris Bait and Tackle reports good flounder locally on the party boats with catches of mackerel, whiting and ling being brought in by the various head boats in good numbers.

STATEN ISLAND

Santo's Sport Shop reports that the flounder hotspot this week was piers 17 and 18. Catches up to 3 dozen fish from 3/4 to 1¼ lbs., were taken on sand or bloodworms with the outgoing tide best. Great Kills Harbor and Princess Bay were a slower pick with fish up to 3/4 lbs., being taken. Stripers are a slow pick on the beach side of Great Kills Park. Catches of 3 to 9 fish a day ranging from 3 to 4 lbs., are being taken, mostly on the last two hours of incoming and the first two hours of outgoing on worms.

NORTH SHORE MID-ISLAND

★ BEST BET ★

FLOUNDER

ROCKY POINT

Rocky Point Fishing Stop reports that Winfred Shoenwork and sons fished the mouth of Mt. Sinai Harbor and took 15 keeper flounder to 2 lbs., along with plenty of throwbacks. The baits used were sand worms and clam bellies. A couple of flounder are being taken at the Mt. Misery Shoals, over the weekend.

MT. SINAI HARBOR

Ralph's Fishing Station reports that some mackerel were being taken at buoy 11 over the weekend averaging 1 to 1½ lbs. Flounder fishing has picked up a little inside the harbor with fish running up to 1½ lbs. There are plenty of smaller fish being taken and the baits used on these flatties is worms and mussels. Flounder up to 2 lbs. are being taken on the outside, along the beaches and off the Mt. Misery Shoals and chumming is a necessity.

PORT JEFFERSON

The Betty W reported flounder fishing has been good to excellent with the average catch of 15 to 20 fish per man. Last Saturday, 14-year-old Mike Williams took the pool with a2¼ lb. fish. Last Sunday, a 7-year-old won the $25 pool with a 2¾ lb. flat. Capt. John asked us to pass along the word that he is chartered this coming Saturday and Sunday.

Capt. Cash reports that the **Port Jeff Ace** has been enjoying good flounder fishing on the ebb tide, with mussels on the hook and as chum. Chester Morris of Valley Stream was high hook Saturday with 36 flounder. They are starting to see signs of the first blackfish.

Caraftis Fishing Station reported plenty of flounders in the area. Most of the fishermen are concentrated inside the harbor, mostly in the west bays. Bill Ryan, John Berger and Bob Mann took 51 flounders up to 2¼ lbs. in those spots over the weekend. The bigger flats are starting to show up at Mt. Misery Shoals. There are fish to 3 lbs. here. If the weather holds, this fishing should be going full blast in a week. The first mackerel were caught over the weekend.

KINGS PARK

Bob at **Mae's Way Fishing Station** reports that flounder fishing was fantastic during the latter part of last week, but the action subsided over the weekend. Last Thursday, Dave

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The **FISHERMAN**

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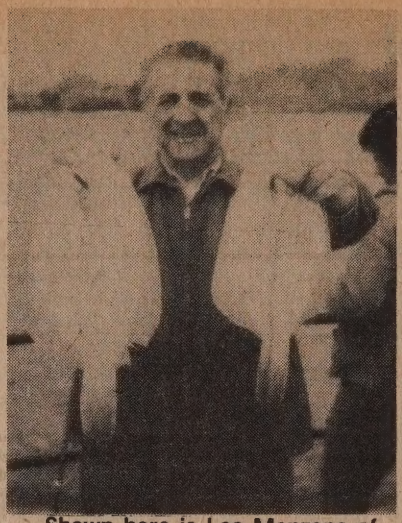

Shown here is Lee Manzone of New Jersey with his pool winning 2½ lb. flounder taken aboard the party boat "Ebb Tide" of City Island on April 13.

Spindell caught 100 flounder for the day on sand worms and mussels off Callahan's Beach in 25 feet of water. Jerry and John Koliner and friend Gunther had 45 flounder during their 3 hour afternoon trip also at Callahan' Beach. Best rental boat catch for Thursday was 75 flounder taken at the Mansion, in contrast, weekend catches ran 12 to 25 fish per boat. Private boater Paul Bruno produced 50 flounder on Saturday and 40 fish on Sunday, working Callahan's and the Mansion.

NORTHPORT

Bowman's Sporting Goods reported the flounder fishing is at its peak. One customer caught 75 in four hours over the weekend. Best bet is chumming with mussels in a chum pot or stirring up the bottom with a sash weight or small anchor. Northport Bay seems to be covered with fish. On the outside flounders of the bigger variety are starting to show. Best spot is Callahan's Beach. Shore fishermen are better off on the harbor side of Sand City. Some bass between Lilco and Crabmeadow. Bigger fish are mixed in now, so it appears some fresh fish are coming in. They run from 6 to about 12 lbs. The four inch Rebel or small bucktails or the half-ounce Whiptails are producing.

HUNTINGTON

Ronnie's Bait and Tackle reports that Leroy Bombareiere, son Steve and John Woodward of Huntington took 82 flounder up to 2 lbs., on sand worms and mussel chum in Northport Bay on Saturday. Flounder activity is also good at Callahan's, Duck Harbor and at the mouth of Centerport Harbor. Sand worms, clams and mussels are doing the job. Bass ranging from keepers to 3 lbs., with an occasional 9 pounder are being taken on worms and Rebels at the Lilco outflow.

Four Winds Tackle reports very good flounder fishing at Duck Island and in Centerport. The fish are averaging 1 to 1¾ lbs., with a lot more throwbacks mixed in. Some nice flatties can be found outside at Morris Rock, Marshall Field and off Eaton's Neck when the weather permits you to get out. The flounder are taking worms and lots of chum on the moving tides.

Charter Boat **Ever Ready** called to say that Andy Benzinger from Glen Cove took Saturday's pool with a 1¾ **lb.** flounder and was also high hook with 23 fish. On Sunday, Van Zapata of Huntington took the pool with a 1½ lb. fish. Donny Miller from Port Washington was high hook with 18 flatties.

NORTH SHORE WEST END

★ BEST BET ★ FLOUNDER

BAYVILLE

Norm's Bait and Tackle reports that the flounder being taken are bigger in size and are running up to 1½ lbs. The best areas are Oyster Bay, Harbor and at the Bayville Bridge. On the Sound, Lloyd's Neck and Whitewood point are producing nice sized flounder on sand worms and clam chum. Beach fishermen are doing fairly well, but boating is still the best bet.

CITY ISLAND

Jack's Tackle Shop reported very nice catches of flounder from most of his rental boats that fished the Rodmans Neck-Fort Slocum area over the weekend. The first sightings of mackerel were made at Executive Light. Bass report limited to one short taken in Turtle Cove. No word on any rod and reel blackfishing though some were taken in the pots. This fishing should get started before too long. The City Island boats are doing good with flounders up around Northport.

The head boat **Ebb Tide** reports the sound is alive with flounders and all of the City Island party boats are enjoying good catches. Huntington Harbor, Lloyd's Neck and Oyster Bay are producing well on sand worms. The captains are looking to start getting mackerel within two weeks.

The Claire Fleet will be working both the ocean and the sound for flounders now and mackerel as soon as they arrive. They will be sailing from the Bronx River at Westchester Avenue, which Capt. Howard advises is the oldest port in the City, operating for over 50 years.

HIGH TIDE TABLES

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	Breakwater Harbor AM	Breakwater Harbor PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGE-PORT AM	BRIDGE-PORT PM	NEW-PORT AM	NEW-PORT PM	DATE
THUR	11:06	11:30	11:42	—	11:53	—	—	12:39	1:43	2:20	1:50	2:29	11:02	11:26	4/27
FRI	—	12:07	12:09	12:46	12:10	12:54	12:55	1:41	2:41	3:23	2:48	3:30	—	12:03	4/28
SAT	12:31	1:08	1:10	1:54	1:11	1:53	2:00	2:49	3:45	4:51	3:53	4:34	12:27	1:05	4/29
SUN	2:32	3:13	3:19	4:06	3:12	3:55	4:09	4:56	6:20	7:20	6:00	6:39	2:32	3:08	4/30
MON	3:38	4:18	4:28	5:11	4:16	4:58	5:20	5:59	7:51	8:27	7:08	7:44	3:35	4:09	5/1
TUE	4:42	5:20	5:33	6:09	5:20	5:57	6:25	6:56	8:55	9:25	8:12	8:40	4:36	5:05	5/2
WED	5:43	6:13	6:30	7:02	6:20	6:50	7:22	7:46	9:53	10:16	9:12	9:36	5:31	5:55	5/3
THUR	6:36	7:00	7:23	7:50	7:12	7:38	8:15	8:34	10:43	11:02	10:04	10:23	6:21	6:44	5/4

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet.....—0 50" is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." —0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide , add 6 ½ hours to this figure.

On SANDY HOOK

STATEN ISLAND	+ 0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	—0 01
Red Bank, Navesink R.I.	+ 0 48
Long Branch	—0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	—0 18
Shark River Basin	+ 0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	—0 12
Seaside Park	—0 35
Mantoloking Bridge	+ 5 34
TOMS RIVER	+ 4 37
Waretown	+ 2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	—0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+ 2 33
Beach Haven	+ 1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	—0 01
Seven Islands	+ 0 12
Graveling Point	+ 1 05
Mullica River	+ 1 55
Grassy Bay	+ 1 08
ABSECON INLET	+ 0 14
Atlantic City Pier	—0 26
Gt. Egg Harbor Inlet	+ 0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+ 0 46
CORSON INLET	+ 0 09
TOWNESEND INLET	+ 0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+ 0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+ 0 45
Cape May Harbor	—0 02
Rehoboth Beach	—0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+ 0 14
SHINNECOCK INLET	—0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+ 1 25
East Quogue	+ 2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+ 1 18
Indian Reservation	+ 3 05
MORICHES INLET	—0 56
Smith's Point	+ 3 28
Harts Cove	+ 1 30
Potunck Point	+ 3 35
Mastic Beach	+ 3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	—0 38
Democrat Point	—0 38
Coast Guard Station	—0 19
Fire Island Light	+ 0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+ 3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+ 3 20
Bay Shore	+ 2 23
Babylon	+ 2 12
Amityville	+ 2 21
JONES INLET	—0 19
Zachs Bay	+ 1 25
Seaford Harbor	+ 2 05
Freeport Creek	+ 0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	—0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+ 0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	—0 00
Beach Ch. Bridge	+ 0 38
JFK Airport	+ 0 26

On BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+ 0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+ 0 08
Bayville Bridge	+ 0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+ 0 03
Northport Bay	+ 0 03
Norwalk Islands	+ 0 10
Smithtown Bay	—0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+ 0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+ 0 03
New Haven Harbor	+ 0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	—0 08
Herod Point	—0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+ 0 19
Horton Point	—0 20
Truman Beach	—0 42
Falkner Island	—0 13
Sachem Head	—0 10
Branford Harbor	—0 07
New Haven Harbor	—0 08
Milford Harbor	—0 07
Stratford	+ 0 27
Shelton	+ 1 36
Black Rock Harbor	—0 03
Saugatuck River	—0 01
South Norwalk	+ 0 10
Greens Ledge	—0 01
Stamford	+ 0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+ 0 06
Greenwich	+ 0 02

On NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+ 0 27
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+ 0 12
Greenport	+ 1 04
Southold	+ 1 43
New Suffolk	+ 2 26
South Jamesport	+ 2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+ 2 33
Noyack Bay	+ 2 05
Sag Harbor	+ 0 59
Gardiners Bay	+ 0 21
Promised Land	—0 14
Montauk Inlet	—0 25
Montauk Point	—1 13
Niantic	+ 1 20
Stonington	—0 33
Noank, Mystic River	—0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove	—0 01
Norwich	+ 0 09
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook jetty	+ 1 10
Lyme	+ 1 24
Essex	+ 1 38
East Haddam	+ 2 41
Higganum Creek	+ 2 54

On WILLETS PT.

Little Neck Bay	—0 10
Execution Light	—0 06
Manhasset Bay	—0 01
Hempstead Harbor	—0 11
City Island	—0 03
Rye Beach	—0 28
Port Chester	—0 09
Mamaroneck	—0 08
New Rochelle	—0 24
Davids Island	—0 02

On B'WATER HB.

CAPE MAY POINT	—0 10
Miami Beach	+ 1 17
East Point	+ 0 53
Egg Island Point	+ 0 33
Cape Henlopen	—0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+ 0 09
Mispillion River Ent.	+ 0 33
St. Jones River Ent.	+ 0 57

On NEW YORK

Jersey City	+ 0 07
Geo. Washington Br.	+ 0 46
Spuyten Duyvil	+ 0 58
Ossining	+ 1 53
Peekskill	+ 2 24
West Point	+ 3 16
Newburg	+ 3 42

On NEWPORT

Sakonnet	—0 10
Tiverton	+ 0 21
Beavertail Point	—0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Pt.	+ 0 10
Bristol	+ 0 10
Warren	+ 0 21
Nayatt Point	+ 0 12
Pawtucket	+ 0 21
East Greenwich	+ 0 16
Wickford	+ 0 12
Narragansett Pier	—0 08
Point Judith Harbor	—0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+ 0 05
Old Harbor	—0 14
Watch Hill Point	+ 0 44

SUNRISE/SUNSET

5/1	5:56	7:58
5/6	5:50	8:04
5/11	5:44	8:09
5/16	5:39	8:14
5/21	5:34	8:19
5/26	5:31	8:24

PHASES OF THE MOON

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	2nd Qtr.
5/7	5/15	5/22	5/29

The Original Knight
SOLUNAR TABLES
When To Fish Or Hunt

The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during these times when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour-and-a-half or two hours thereafter, and are in the bold type face. The minor periods are shorter in duration and lighter type.

	AM		PM	
	Minor	**Major**	Minor	**Major**
Thurs.	8:05	**2:25**	8:35	**2:55**
Fri.	9:10	**3:30**	9:40	**4:00**
Sat.	10:15	**4:35**	10:45	**5:05**
Sun.	—	**6:25**	12:20	**6:55**
Mon.	12:35	**7:15**	1:10	**7:40**
Tues.	1:25	**8:00**	1:55	**8:25**
Wed.	2:10	**8:45**	2:40	**9:10**
Thurs.	2:55	**9:25**	3:25	**9:50**

TODAY THROUGH MAY 3rd

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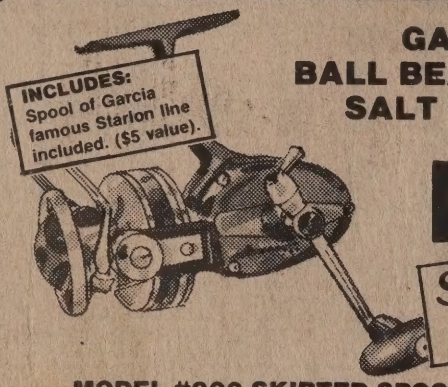

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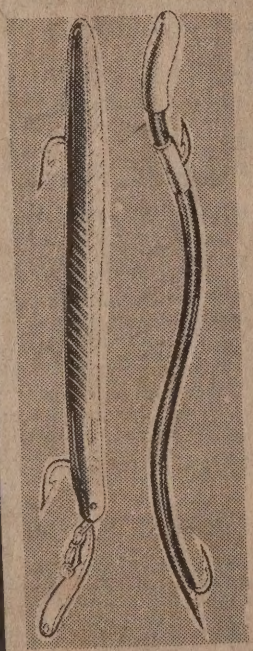

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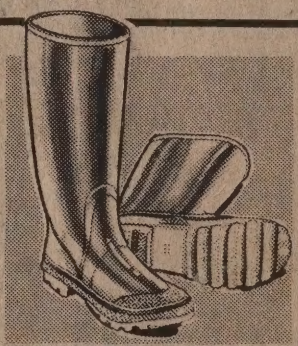

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Brown rubber uppers; contrasting yellow rubber grip-tread sole and heel; pebble back stay and toe cap. Size 6-11.

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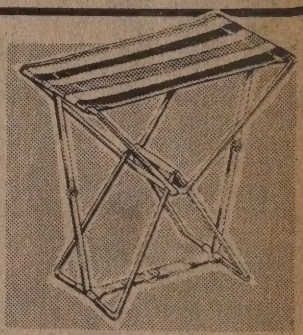

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